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$40-$50/month	29
$60-$70/month	5
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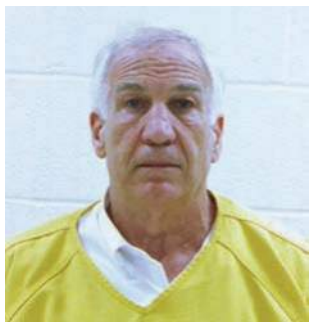
Sunday, June 24, 2012

INSIDE

NATION



Jerry Sandusky's lawyers say they weren't given enough time to prepare.

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For North Koreans, the indoctrination of anti-Americanism starts as early as kindergarten.

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LIFE & STYLE

For modern movie princesses, looking pretty and marrying a prince isn't enough.

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3 brothers killed in car crash

Deadliest vehicular accident since 2008

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Three brothers died when the pickup truck they were driving swerved and smashed into a makeshift garage along Isa Drive between Capital Hill and Santa Lourdes area Saturday morning.

See CAR CRASH on Page 4

At left, the wrecked Mazda pickup truck driven by the three Nekaifes brothers is taken to the impounding area of the Department of Public Safety after the fatal crash on Capital Hill Saturday morning. Right photo shows the makeshift garage along Isa Drive between Capital Hill and Santa Lourdes where the pickup truck slammed into Saturday morning, killing three brothers aboard the car.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE/ BRUCE BATEMAN

US House panel caps NMI's food stamp funds at $12.148M

» **Over 1,000 in NMI to get health insurance premium rebates of $782 each**

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The U.S. House Appropriations Committee set last week a $12.148-million food stamp funding for the CNMI in fiscal year 2013, $1 million lower than the fiscal year 2012 budget of $13.148 million. This is contained in the committee's completed fiscal year 2013 spending bill for the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan (Ind-MP) said this is the funding level that President Barack Obama recommended.

"Last year, we were able to get the department to recommend more funding to Congress in August and that resulted in a total of $13.148 million in the final bill. Clearly, we have our work cut out for us this year, as well, to protect those who need

See FOOD STAMP on Page 4

Fitial hits Kilili, Senate at GOP rally

Precinct chair Dino Palacios, center, introduces on stage the Republican Party of the CNMI Association's Saipan Precinct 2 candidates Eric Atalig, second from left, and Liana Hofschneider, second from right, at the GOP's kickoff rally at Civic Center in Susupe yesterday. The Republicans named 19 candidates yesterday, but said they will announce five more names later to have a full slate for the Nov. 6 midterm elections.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Republican Party of the CNMI Association president, Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, and other GOP members endorsed the party's 19 candidates so far while taking turns lambasting Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan (Ind-MP) and the CNMI Senate at the GOP's kickoff rally for the Nov. 6 midterm elections yesterday. Sablan and the Senate do not see eye to eye with the administration on a host of issues.

» **19 of 24 candidates for 2012 midterm polls named**

The Republicans have yet to name five other candidates—three for Saipan's

See GOP on Page 4

Time ticks on $1.3M for new middle school

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Northern Marianas Housing Corp. has until 2016 to spend some $1.3 million worth of Community Development Block Grant funding to build a new middle school—or at the very least a "usable facility"—for the Public School System or else pay back the full amount to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

"We have four more years after July this year to build something and start using the facil-

See TIME on Page 4

Two public school principals leave their posts. PAGE 5
Installation of bollards at Tinian Harbor begins. PAGE 7

Local

140 Korean dance group members to arrive for LibDay parade

FERDIE DE LA TORRRE

Members of a Korean Brass Band along with their parents, conductor, and a principal gather for a photo in front of the Department of Public Safety's monument during the band's tour at DPS last week.

About 140 members of a dance group from South Korea will be joining the July 4th Liberation Day parade and festivities.

JP Entertainment president Jun Ho Park is coordinating the visit of the Korean dance group.

Park told *Saipan Tribune* that the 140 members will join the parade and perform at the nightly event during the weeklong Liberation Day celebration.

The group will be arriving on Saipan on July 1 and 2.

Park said he has been inviting and coordinating the visits of Korean musicians and dance performers since 1994 as part of a cultural exchange program for Liberation Day.

It was Park who also invited the 60 members of the Hwasun Elementary School Brass Band from South Korea that performed during a fundraising concert for the benefit of the Saipan Southern High School's Manta Ray Band on June 18 at the American Memorial Park.

Park said the brass band is a very famous group in South Korea and its music conductor, Seo Kwang Yul, is also very popular in the country.

Aside from the conductor and school principal, 15 parents accompanied the 60 5th grade and 6th grade students.

Last week, brass band members and parents toured the Aging Center and the Department of Public Safety before flying back to Korea.

"They're having fun. Everybody is happy," said Park, referring to the students' tour at the Aging Center and DPS. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Ex-convict charged with sex assault

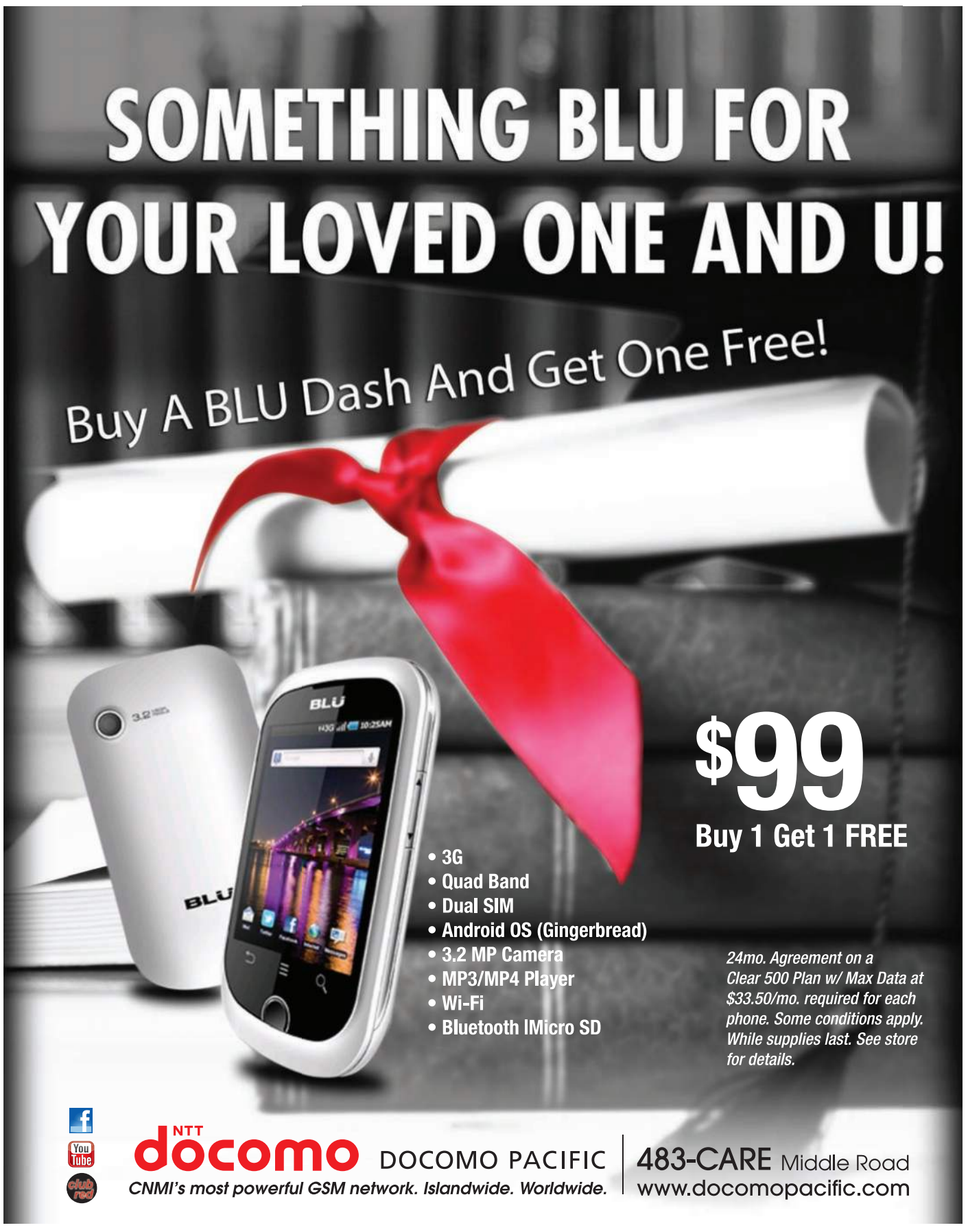
The Superior Court has found probable cause to warrant the filing of charges against an ex-convict who is facing charges of sexually assaulting an 18-year-old woman.

During Friday's preliminary hearing, associate judge Joseph N. Camacho ordered Anthony Peter Rios, 38, to answer the charges of sexual assault in the second degree, assault and battery, and disturbing the peace. He was represented by a public defender.

The sexual assault and other charges allegedly happened in December 2011 and on June 11, 2012, on Saipan.

Last June 19, police arrested Rios' wife, Xia Liu Rios, for allegedly threatening to harm the victim.

In 2003, Rio was convicted of sexual assault and was subsequently slapped with a five-year sentence. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***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Chamber: No to tax rebate removal, biz gross revenue tax hike

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce asked the Legislature on Friday not to remove tax rebate provisions in CNMI tax laws and not to increase the business gross revenue tax by 2 percentage points from 5 percent to 7 percent.

Chamber president Douglas Brennan said the business organization takes the position that "what is good for business is good for the CNMI."

"Outside of federal funding sources, the business community produces what funds the Legislature appropriates for infrastructure and public services," Brennan said in a two-page letter to Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) and House Speaker Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan).

Manglona said he has yet to read the Chamber's letter.

Basa, for his part, said his Ways and Means Committee is currently reviewing legislation cutting rebate tax by 20 percent but the panel has yet to decide whether to recommend passage or rejection of the bill.

"But we are also reviewing other revenue-generating bills," he added.

The proposal to cut tax rebates and increase the BGR tax is purportedly intended to benefit the NMI Retirement Fund, the Commonwealth Healthcare Center, the Marianas Visitors Authority, and to restore 80 work hours biweekly.

Brennan cited four specific reasons for "adamantly opposing" the Legislature's ideas, specifically in the case of proposed legislation that would provide funding for Fund benefits.

Brennan

First, retirement benefits are calculated based on years of service and contributions, he said.

"Unfortunately these benefits have not been sufficiently funded. To require the existing business community to fund years of accrued benefits through annual taxes is absurd. The business community of 2012 should not be required to fund benefits that have accrued over 30 years," Brennan told Manglona and Cabrera.

Second, the Chamber believes that benefits are excessive and should be reduced to a level that the government can afford to pay with the resources at hand.

Third, the rebate provisions of the CNMI tax code are one of the few incentives to attract new business to the CNMI.

"What business is going to come to the CNMI knowing it will immediately have to pay taxes to fund retirement benefits that have accrued for decades?" Brennan asked.

Fourth, the financial health of current businesses in the CNMI is fragile at best.

"Implementation of the above ideas is akin to an increase in taxes of 50-70 percent. Businesses on the cusp will close and other businesses will need to reassess long-term plans for staying in the CNMI. Passage of such ideas into law will decrease total revenues rather than increase them," the Chamber president said.

Brennan said the Chamber cares greatly for the CNMI and wishes it to prosper. "The above ideas will be catastrophic and will destroy what is left of the CNMI's economy," he added.

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce is the largest business organization in the CNMI with some 150 members.

THC: Stable for now, with 31 staff aboard

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Despite not having a full-time permanent physician, the Tinian Health Center claimed that it is meeting the demand of patient care on island because there are 31 people aboard right now—all doing their best to deliver quality service.

Acting THC resident director Freddy Hofschneider Jr. told *Saipan Tribune* that the center's staffing is "stable" and that they can easily make adjustments if necessary.

Of its 31 employees, 11 are nurses while the rest are support staff.

Saipan Tribune learned that THC lost 12 personnel when the healthcare corporation recently enforced an emergency reduction-in-force due to the lack of a budget appropriated for the organization's operation.

Hofschneider said a few of the laid-off personnel were successfully transferred to other health programs on the island while others remain unemployed.

THC has no full time physician since the departure of Dr. Steven Lebamoff last year. Finding his replacement has been hampered by the lack of funds to pay for a doctor's salary.

Despite this, Hofschneider said the center is not short-changing people in terms of providing healthcare services because physicians from Saipan are being rotated to serve at THC.

According to previous records, the center accommodates about 50 patients daily during regular working hours.

Hofschneider said that when funds are identified and certified available for THC, he will recommend filling three important positions: a doctor and at least two persons to work for the center's billing and accounting section.

Meantime, in celebration of CNMI Nurses Week, Hofschneider expressed his sincere appreciation to the 11 nurses stationed at the center. He said Tinian started the weeklong celebration last week with a Mass on June 17. A special dinner was also hosted last Friday by Mayor Ramon Dela Cruz and Sens. Frank Cruz and Jude Hofschneider, along with center's staff.

To cap the weeklong occasion, Hofschneider said four of their nurses joined their counterparts on Saipan last Saturday to join the traditional Nurses' Ball held at Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan. The nurses' trip and participation in the event was sponsored by Star Marianas Air, FPA Pacific Corp., and Islander Rent A Car.

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Delta presentation today at PIC

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce is coordinating with the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands and Marianas Visitors Authority to host a Delta Air Lines luncheon presentation at the Charley's Cabaret of Pacific Islands Club today, June 25, 2012.

The presentation is titled "Momentum" and the speakers are Delta Air Line's Jeff Bernier, Asia-Pacific managing director, and Steven Crowdey, general manager for Delta for Philippines, Micronesia and Australia.

Delta representatives will be handing out free travel vouchers and other items to all attendees. Make reservations to confirm your attendance by registering with Janice Tenorio, SCC coordinator/planner at 233-7150, or by email at coordinator@saipanchamber.com.

The presentation is from 11:30am to 1pm (lunch at 11:30am followed by briefing at 12pm. Cost is $15 with lunch. ***(PR)***

FOOD STAMP

From Page 1

help buying food for their families," Sablan said.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial said Sablan has been more focused on food stamp issues, which make the CNMI look like a welfare state. Fitial opposes Sablan's proposal to place the CNMI under the national food stamp program.

The 2013 funding comes at a time when the CNMI Nutrition Assistance Program cut food stamp benefits by 13.6 percent beginning May 1, but the U.S. Food and Nutrition Services pointed to the CNMI's own overspending that led to the cut.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture also said there is no restoration of the $4.5 million in de-obligated food stamp program block grant that the CNMI was unable to use from fiscal years 2007 through 2011.

Sablan, at the same time, said Congress is reauthorizing farm and food assistance laws this year and the national food stamp program is on the chopping block.

Last week, the U.S. Senate passed its version of the "farm bill" cutting food stamps by $4 billion.

The House Agriculture Committee, where Sablan sits, will mark up its version of the bill beginning July 11 and may make even deeper cuts to the nutrition programs, which the Republican majority says is "middle-class welfare."

"WIC, school lunches, and agricultural and research programs that the Northern Marianas College receives may also be targeted by Republicans—funds that are desperately needed in the Northern Marianas," Sablan said.

Rebates for over 1,000 in CNMI

Sablan also announced that over 1,000 health insurance customers in the CNMI will soon receive a premium rebate, thanks to "Obamacare."

The average rebate in the CNMI will be $782 for each qualifying family, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

"The $782 average rebate per insured household in the CNMI is the third highest in the nation. The national average is $151," Sablan said.

Insurance companies must pay the rebate by Aug. 1.

The announcement came as the Supreme Court prepares possibly to overturn the new health care reform law this week.

The new law requires that insurance companies spend at least 80 percent of customers' premiums on health care services. No more than 20 percent can be used for marketing, salaries, and other administrative overhead.

Beginning this year, insurers who do not spend at least 80 percent on care must rebate some of the premiums.

Over $291,000 will be rebated in the form of mailed checks, electronic transfers, or a reduction in future premiums.

"This 80/20 rebate is one more reason why I fought long and hard to get some of the coverage of Obamacare extended to the Northern Marianas. Along with the $100 million increase in Medicaid funding we got, consumer protections such as not charging women more for health insurance than men, and lower drug costs for seniors on Medicare, this is why I pray that the Supreme Court does not kill Obamacare. The Supreme Court could rule as early as Monday," Sablan added.

CAR CRASH

From Page 1

Police officer Jason Tarkong confirmed yesterday that the fatalities are brothers of Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's close-in security/driver Police Capt. Jermaine Nekaifes.

Tarkong said he has no information yet on the full names of the victims. There is no information yet whether alcohol and speed were factors in the crash.

He said Capt. Nekaifes was not in the truck when the accident happened.

Tarkong said the preliminary investigation showed that police received a call about a truck that had overturned between Capital Hill and Santa Lourdes area around 11am. Police will release more details of the accident today, Monday.

Acting Department of Public Safety commissioner Ambrosio Ogumoro said yesterday that Sgt. Tom Blas is leading the ongoing investigation.

Saipan Tribune learned that the pickup truck was going to Kagman when it lost control, swerved to the opposite lane, careened into a mound of soil, and then slammed into a makeshift garage. The truck overturned.

Responding police officers and paramedics cut parts of the truck to extricate the victims from the wrecked truck.

Paramedics brought the victims to the Commonwealth Health Center where they were pronounced dead.

Saturday's incident is the deadliest car crash in the CNMI since November 2008 when a car slammed into a power pole in front of Joeten Kiyu Public Library in Susupe, also killing three people in the vehicle.

In November 2009, a man and his infant son were killed, while seven others were injured, during a three-car collision along Middle Road in Chalan Laulau.

On March 28, 2012, a motorist reportedly suffered a heart attack while driving, causing his vehicle to swerve on Beach Road in Susupe and hit two vehicles that were parked at the Joeten Center compound.

GOP

From Page 1

Precinct 3, one senatorial candidate for Tinian, and one representative candidate for Tinian—to have a full slate of 24.

The crowd estimate at the GOP kickoff rally at the Civic Center in Susupe was about 500, although most Republicans asked yesterday said it was around 1,000. The event started with a motorcade and road waving.

Sablan could not be reached for immediate comment yesterday because of the time difference between the CNMI and Washington, D.C.

Fitial and other Republicans such as former governor and now Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. chief executive officer Juan N. Babauta and Lands and Natural Resources Secretary Arnold Palacios urged voters to vote for Dr. Ignacia T. Demapan to replace Sablan in Congress. Sablan has aligned himself with the Democrats in Congress, but said he has also been working with Republicans.

Fitial and other party members said if and when Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney wins over Democratic President Barack Obama, the CNMI should expect more help from the White House, as well as from what they expect would be a Republican Congress. Recent moves by the Republicans, however, threatened to cut some program funding for the CNMI and other states and territories.

Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota), in a phone interview yesterday, said the governor has always wanted to talk about casinos as a silver bullet, "but not the 99 other things on the table" which he said the Senate has been and will continue to push for.

"The Senate has been proactive in passing initiatives and bills to address the Retirement Fund, public health, public safety and education. We hope the House will pass those. Revenue-generating bills have to originate from the House," Manglona said.

At the same time, he urged Saipan voters to sign the ongoing popular initiative so that the question of whether voters want to legalize casino gaming on Saipan will be placed on the Nov. 6 ballot.

"I really wish that question will be placed on the ballot. But if they cannot even get enough signatures to put it on the ballot, they should not come back to the Legislature to pass a bill," he added.

Fitial spent some 10 minutes addressing the crowd of Republicans, mostly wearing red shirts. Fitial, Babauta, Palacios, and GOP Blue Ribbon Committee chair Oscar Rasa, among others, spoke in the vernacular.

In an interview after delivering his impromptu remarks, Fitial said, "Kilili doesn't have a concrete plan of helping, creating sustainability for the future of the Commonwealth. He's more interested in putting the Commonwealth in a welfare state, the food stamp."

Fitial said Sablan should focus more on improving the economy.

"He claims that every time there's ARRA [funding], he's responsible for that. I'm the governor. I meet with the governors twice a year. And we're the ones discussing ARRA with Obama. We didn't discuss ARRA with the U.S. Congress. He's always trying to deceive people; he has nothing to do with ARRA," Fitial told reporters.

The ARRA legislation was one of the first few bills that Sablan voted on during his first term in Congress.

The CNMI has been awarded over $119 million in ARRA grants since 2009. But as of March 30, 2012, the CNMI has yet to draw down $28.79 million. Sablan has been asking the administration to speed up the completion and spending of ARRA money.

Fitial said he also told the crowd, "We've had had enough of Kilili. No more."

Sablan supporters said yesterday it's difficult for the CNMI Republicans to replace Sablan with Demapan because Sablan has been doing the best he could to help the CNMI and its people.

As for the CNMI Senate, Fitial said he initiated summits and meetings to discuss with the Legislature solutions to problems such as the economy and the Retirement Fund.

"What else do they want? I initiated all those summit meetings. They don't like the issues, initiatives so they stopped. Now they're blaming me for not coming up [with a plan]," he said.

Babauta, for his part, told the crowd in vernacular that Sablan claimed credit for the federal funding received for the Kagman Community Health Center. Babauta, who lost to Sablan in the delegate race, said there were others who worked to get the $603,333 in startup funds for the Kagman center.

Candidates

Fitial said the Republican Party will have a full slate.

However, he said members on Tinian asked for more time to name candidates for the Senate and House.

Saipan's Precinct 3 also still lacks three of six candidates needed.

Besides Dr. Ignacia T. Demapan as delegate candidate, the Republicans also endorsed their senatorial candidates Luis Crisostimo, an incumbent, of Saipan, and Victor Hocog of Rota. The GOP's candidate for Rota representative is incumbent Rep. Teresita Santos.

The GOP's candidates for Saipan's Precinct 1 include incumbents House Speaker Eli Cabrera and Joseph Palacios, along with Richard Seman, Vicente Cabrera, Ray Dela Cruz, and Joe Limes.

Precinct 2 GOP candidates are Eric Atalig and Liana Hofschneider.

The three Precinct 3 candidates are incumbent House vice speaker Felicidad Ogumoro, along with Roy Rios and Joe Saures. Three more will be named at a later time.

GOP's Precinct 4 candidates are incumbents House floor leader George Camacho and Sylvester Iguel.

Precinct 5 also has the two incumbents: Rep. Ray Basa and Rep. Fred Deleon Guerrero.

TIME

From Page 1

ity," board chair Marcie M. Tomokane said during Thursday's board meeting.

Several HUD officials were on island last week to meet with NMHC board and staff, including field director Mark Chandler of the Hawaii office, who suggested that they build a gymnasium that the students at Koblerville Elementary School and Saipan Southern High School can use while the actual classroom buildings are being built.

"At least, it meets the lease agreement and it also would meet [HUD's] requirement," Tomokane told the board.

NMHC has already committed $659,490 in CDBG funding for program year 2011 to the middle school that will be built in Koblerville. The agency also committed the amount of $634,791 for 2012, also for the same project.

Discussions on the CDBG-funded middle school project surfaced after planner and grant writer Jeannie Mafnas reported that they already received the cost estimate for the project, a month after they requested it from PSS.

The cost estimate, including the design, was submitted at 12:30pm last Thursday by the architecture firm Taniguchi Ruth Makio Architects, the same firm that designed Kagman's Chacha Oceanview Jr. High School, after which the new school's plan will be patterned.

The proposed middle school seeks to solve the student overcrowding currently facing Hopwood Jr. High School in Chalan Piao.

Based on the submitted cost estimate and available funding, Mafnas noted that they will be able to fund the A&E and construction not only of a two-story block with toilets but also the parking lot.

Mafnas said there would be a total of 16 classrooms or eight classrooms for each block, which would accommodate about 50 percent or some 600 students from Hopwood Jr. High School.

The entire project, according to Mafnas, would amount to about $1.2 million "and our grants for two years will be able to fund that."

Despite the availability of cost estimate and plan, board member Tom Glenn Quitugua argued that other issues concerning the project have yet to be addressed by PSS, whose board and staff have yet to accommodate NMHC's request for a meeting.

According to Quitugua, even if the new school is built, it may still not be used if PSS won't be able to address student transportation, furniture and equipment, or even hiring of new teachers—all of which would be critical in having the new school used.

"We came up with the numbers but the [NMHC] board hasn't seen a commitment from PSS," he said.

While Quitugua recommended other potential PSS projects where the CDBG funding could be used such as building another wing for an existing school, Tomokane stressed that the grant was approved for the new middle school project.

Quitugua, one of the Rota representatives to the NMHC board, also reminded the board that there are other community projects not only on Saipan but also on Tinian and Rota that could benefit from the CDBG monies.

The board, through Tomokane, instructed Mafnas and acting corporate director Jesse Palacios to arrange a meeting between NMHC and PSS one last time. If unsuccessful, the housing agency will ask Gov. Benigno R. Fitial to make it possible.

"The clock is ticking and it's ticking very fast," said Tomokane. "We need to address this issue. We cannot continue and sit back and wait until they plan to meet with us. …We need to do something first to address this because honestly, we don't have the money to pay HUD back."

The board also gave Mafnas the go-signal to incorporate the proposed middle school project in the NMHC action plan for program year 2012.

Two public school principals leave their posts

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Two school administrator slots will be up for grabs at the Public School System this new school year following the exit of two principals this month.

Tinian High School principal Julian Hofschneider and Tanapag Elementary School principal Jessica Barcinas-Taylor confirmed with the *Saipan Tribune* their decision to leave the system.

Hofschneider retired from service effective June 13 while Barcinas-Taylor quit her job effective June 29 for personal reasons. The two are among the longest serving employees of the system.

Hofschneider has been with public schools for 20 years since 1992. He obtained both his bachelor's and master's degrees while teaching in public schools. From being a teacher aide for about five years on Tinian, Hofschneider eventually became a regular classroom teacher in 1997. He was assigned to Saipan schools before going back to Tinian and serving as Tinian High School vice principal. After a few years, Hofschneider became the principal of Tinian Elementary School just before he was named the new Tinian High School principal in March 2010 until his retirement.

He described the teaching profession yesterday as "the most fulfilling career" anyone can have. He commended the system for giving its employees, like him, opportunities to grow and succeed.

He cited among his legacies at Tinian Elementary School the gradual but steady increase of SAT-10 results, where some classes actually reached the 50th percentile.

"In my short time at the high school, I focused on the students' school pride. My philosophy is that the only way to make students successful in school is to make them feel welcome and appreciated," he said.

Besides the academic aspect, he also initiated the school's athletic program three years ago.

As for his staff, Hofschneider said he gave more opportunities for teachers and staff members to give inputs on many of the school's decision-making. The school also created a more collaborative effort and teamwork with Tinian Elementary School.

Among the many successes of Tinian High School are ranking the highest in the CNMI in the SAT-10 test, with both 9th and 11th grade reaching at least 50th percentile. In school year 2010-2011, Hofschneider was commended by the Board of Education for bringing Tinian High School to the top in the SAT-10 exams. Its JROTC Stallion Battalion is now in George Mason University for the National Competition in the Junior Leadership and Academic Bowl. Its delegates have had great success in the Chamorro competition in Guam, winning four years in a row for the female singing category and three years for the play. Two years ago, one of its seniors garnered the STEM Fair overall win, which took her to Los Angeles for a national STEM Fair.

Hofschneider hopes that efforts to further expand and improve the system's career technical education program will continue in the years ahead.

A tough decision

Tanapag Elementary's Barcinas-Taylor shared that her exit from the system is due to personal reasons.

Barcinas-Taylor has been working for public schools for 14 years since 1998. She held the following posts in these many years—classroom teacher, school counselor, vice principal, and program manager. Last school year, she was appointed school principal for Tanapag Elementary.

She will officially leave her position on June 29.

Barcinas-Taylor said she has learned a lot from her many years with the system and described those years as a great experience. She said she's leaving the system with a heavy heart and thank PSS for its support and understanding. Calling herself a passionate educator, she hinted of going back to public schools in the future.

Man who choked girlfriend gets 5-day sentence

A man who, while intoxicated, choked his girlfriend in front of their young daughter, was slapped with a five-day prison term.

Abelardo Miranda Magno, 34, pleaded guilty on Thursday to assault and battery and disturbing the peace as part of a plea bargain.

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo sentenced Magno to a year and six months in prison, all suspended except for five days, with credit for the two days he has already served in jail. He was ordered to start serving the remaining three days of his sentence on Friday, June 29, at 9am.

After completing his sentence, Magno will be placed on supervised probation for two years. He was required to pay a $250 fine, $25 court assessment fee, plus probation fee.

Magno was also ordered to write a letter of apology to the victim and to complete anger management counseling and a parenting class, alcohol and drug counseling/treatment.

According to the plea agreement, on Dec. 3, 2011, on Saipan, Magno hit his girlfriend in the back twice and choked her in front of their 5-year-old daughter.

Police detective Catherine B. Pangelinan stated in her report that Magno had been drinking beer since 12pm that day. At 5pm, he gave his girlfriend some money to buy him food. As the girlfriend was looking for a phone book to call a restaurant, Magno got upset and took back the money.

Magno then pushed his girlfriend and choked her. She managed to get away and run to neighbors to call for police's help. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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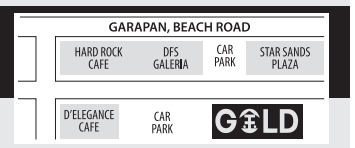

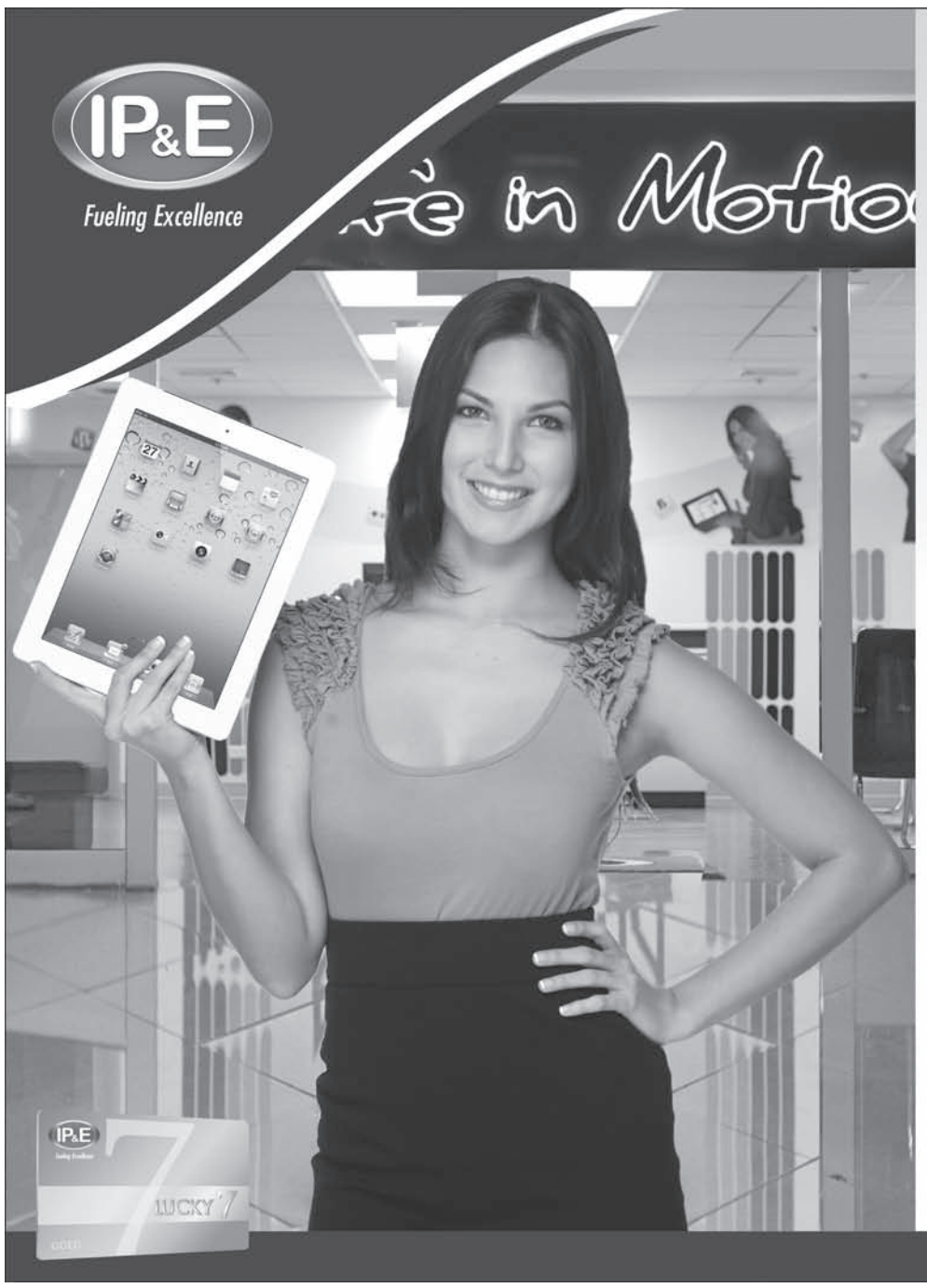

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Cetacean surveys show presence of dolphins, whales in NMI

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The near-shore cetacean surveys being conducted in the Northern Mariana Islands by the Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center have led to a great deal of sightings of different species of dolphins and whales that would enable scientists to have a closer look at the behavior of these marine mammals and the oceanic framework in the area.

Dr. Erin Oleson, who leads the center's Cetacean Research Program, said the repeated sightings of cetaceans such as spinner dolphins and fin whales reveal the kind of species that are available in CNMI waters, allowing them to identify important information such as food and movement patterns.

Headquartered in Honolulu, Hawaii, the center administers scientific research and monitoring programs that support the domestic and international conservation and management of living marine resources.

As part of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Marine Fisheries Service, the center implements a multidisciplinary research strategy and conducts various activities that support its mission of stewardship of living marine resources through science-based conservation and management as well as protection of healthy ecosystems.

Oleson, along with four other core members of the Cetacean Research Program, was recently on island to continue their survey work and share some of their findings during a presentation hosted by the Asia-Pacific Academy of Science, Education, and Environmental Management at the American Memorial Park last Wednesday.

Oleson

In an interview following her presentation, Oleson said the Cetacean Research Program has been conducting near-shore surveys on Saipan, Tinian, and Guam since March 2010. The surveys—the first of its kind—are funded by the National Marine Fisheries Service and the U.S. Navy.

Oleson said the surveys in the CNMI involve the deployment of two long-term acoustic recorders—one on the west of Saipan and another east of Tinian. The first survey collected data from March to August 2010 while the subsequent survey included data from 2011. For this survey, Oleson noted that they "reconfigured" the long-term acoustic recorder in such a way that they will record data from June of 2012 to June 2013.

While they have only looked at a few months' worth of data from the surveys, Oleson revealed that there were a number of dolphin species and whales detected in the area, including sperm, Bryde's, humpback, pilot, and three species of beaked whales, one of which has yet to be identified.

Oleson said their apparatus were also able to record low-frequency sonar emitted by Navy ships. "We're interested to see how common it is, how much sound comes from that versus other noise sources like ships, fishing vessels or even storms," she explained. "They may not be a very large contributor but maybe it's increasing as they build up in the area."

She also said their group collected samples of spinner dolphins that would allow them to study their genetic population structure, stable isotopes, and how they fit into the marine food web, as well as their contaminants.

When asked about comparable and dissimilar findings between the CNMI and Guam, Oleson noted that the group has done more work in the Northern Marianas than its neighboring island. The 2011 Presidential Early Career awardee pointed out that while there will be linkages in both island jurisdictions, they will also differ in several aspects. For example, interaction between cetaceans and humans is less common in the Commonwealth since it does not have the same tourist infrastructure buildup as that in Guam.

"As we learn more about the populations that are in each area, we'll be able to look at that more closely," she added.

According to Oleson, the acoustics in their recorders may also provide some insights into the two Cuvier's beaked whales that beached on Saipan last year. "We haven't seen Cuvier's beaked whales alive around Saipan so that's actually a fairly interesting addition to our species list."

She is optimistic that their research work will continue in the foreseeable future, especially since the Navy is building up its operations in the region and that the program has become "really important" given its "interesting" parallelism to Hawaii.

"We know quite a lot about Hawaii from all the decades of research from other people and this is a very similar island archipelago in terms of the oceanography and the species. So I think it will continue for some time," she told *Saipan Tribune*.

Oleson said they are interested to hear from the public on what they know about cetaceans in the area. "We'd really like to involve the community in the research and we also know that what we're learning is only a small fraction of what the community probably really knows."

For more information, email erin.oleson@noaa.gov or visit http://www.pifsc.noaa.gov/.

MHS Class of 1992 reunion on Saturday

The Marianas High School Class of 1992 will be celebrating its 20th reunion with a "Save the Best for Last" Reunion Ball on Saturday, June 30, 2012 at the Pacific Islands Club's Charley's Cabaret.

All classmates and former classmates of the Class of 1992 are invited to what promises to be a great evening with great friends. The DJ will be spinning hits from the late '80s and early '90s to spice up the night with music that will surely bring back high school memories.

Tickets are only $20 each and includes dinner and beverages (including alcoholic beverages). Purchase your ticket by contacting Daisy at 287-3249 or Cherlyn at 237-3201. You can also email Jessica at butterspirit@yahoo.com, Cherlyn at saipansmile@gmail.com or Daisy at daisy_mendiola@yahoo.com.

Tickets will also be sold at the door, but it is best to purchase them in advance. For more information, visit the Class of 1992 Facebook Page at http://www.facebook.com/groups/98041403136/. ***(PR)***

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, through its Chairwoman of the Board, is hereby giving notice that the Special Meeting of the Board is scheduled on **Wednesday, June 27, 2012 at 10:30 a.m. at the NMHC Conference Room, Garapan, Saipan**. The public is welcome to submit written or oral comments regarding the agenda below. Individuals interested in attending the meeting and needing special accommodations are requested to contact NMHC in advance.

I. PRELIMARY MATTERS
a. Call to Order
b. Roll Call
c. Adoption of Agenda

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

III. ACTING CORPORATE DIRECTOR'S REPORT
a. CDBG Update (Proposed Koblerville Jr. High School)
b. Deloitte & Touche LLC (Financial Audit Exit Interview)

IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

V. OTHER MATTERS

VI. ADJOURNMENT

(Note: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a) (7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session.)

/s/ MARCIE M. TOMOKANE
Chairwoman of the Board

NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender, and employer.

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY

MEETING NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Marianas Visitors Authority, hereby gives notice that a **Special Board of Directors Meeting** will be held on **Tuesday, June 26, 2012 at 9:30 a.m.** at the MVA Conference Room San Jose Professional Building Saipan, MP 96950.

MEETING AGENDA

1) Preliminary Matters
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda

2) Public Comments

3) Committee Reports
1. Finance
a. FY 2011 Audit Report

4) Old Business

5) New Business

6) Miscellaneous/Announcements

7) Executive Session

8) Adjournment

/s/ Marian Aldan-Pierce
Chairperson, MVA Board of Directors

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

DRAFT EIS FOR DIVERT ACTIVITIES AND EXERCISES, GUAM AND COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

The U.S. Air Force (USAF) announces the availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Divert Activities and Exercises, Guam and Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) for public review. The Draft EIS is available for download on the project website address listed below.

The USAF requests comments on the Draft EIS and will host open public hearings on the islands of Saipan and Tinian. The proposed action analyzed in the Draft EIS is to improve an existing airport or airports and associated infrastructure in the Mariana Islands region in support of expanding mission requirements and to achieve divert capabilities in the western Pacific. The proposed airfield and infrastructure improvements would be designed to support a combination of cargo, fighter, and tanker aircraft and associated support personnel for divert landings, periodic exercises, and humanitarian assistance and disaster relief activities. Proposed facilities would be used on an as-needed basis and would not be used as a permanent full-time beddown or installation location. Saipan International Airport and Tinian International Airport are considered alternative locations for the proposed action. In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, the USAF has prepared a Draft EIS and is providing this documentation to the public for review.

In addition to electronic files that can be downloaded at the project website address listed below, printed copies of the Draft EIS will available for review until July 23, 2012 at:

- Guam- University of Guam Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Library; Nieves M. Flores Memorial Library; Andersen Air Force Base Library
- Saipan- Saipan Office of the Mayor; Joeten-Kiyu Public Library
- Tinian- Tinian Office of the Mayor; Tinian Public Library
- Rota- Rota Office of the Mayor; Antonio Camacho Atalig Memorial Library.

The public is encouraged to attend the Draft EIS public hearings, which will be held at the following dates, times, and locations:

1. June 25, 2012 - Saipan Multi-Purpose Center, Beach Road, Susupe Village, Saipan, 5:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
2. June 26, 2012 - Tinian Elementary School, San Jose Village, Tinian, 5:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

Federal agencies, government of CNMI agencies, the public, and other interested parties are encouraged to provide verbal and/or written comments to the USAF for consideration in the Final EIS. Verbal and/or written comments may be submitted at the public hearings or via postal mail. All comments must be submitted or postmarked no later than July 23, 2012.

Mail comments to:

Capt Rebecca Heyse, PACAF/PA
25 E Street, Suite G-108
Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, HI 96853
ATTN: PACAF Divert Marianas EIS

In addition, comments on the Draft EIS will be accepted via telephone voice recording system by dialing 1-855-200-6734, and via the project website at:

www.PACAFDivertMarianasEIS.com.

Installation of bollards at Tinian Harbor begins

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Tinian airport manager Joseph Mendiola disclosed Friday that the Commonwealth Ports Authority has received the shipment of new bollards for its Tinian Harbor project and the installation work kicked off this month.

Describing the project as "on track," Mendiola projects the full completion of the emergency repair by August this year. He said the unpredictable weather is the only factor that may delay the installation and other work on the project.

The poor condition of the Tinian harbor was discovered in July last year when CPA found that it was about to collapse, posing a great danger to harbor users and the possible negative impact it would have on the operation of the port facility on island. The municipal government issued an emergency declaration, allowing it to reprogram money to fund the emergency repair.

Mendiola told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that six new bollards need to be installed to ensure that the harbor will be capable of accommodating bigger shipments such as fuel tankers. These six bollards were procured using capital improvement project funds for Tinian.

A bollard is a short, thick post on the deck of a ship or on a wharf to which a ship's rope may be secured.

Since the emergency repair is not yet complete, Mendiola said the situation remains the same in terms of Mobil Oil's hampered ability to send in its fuel tanker to the island. He said the oil company is presently doing minimal shipments based on the capability of the existing bollards.

The harbor's emergency repair had an initial $500,000 budget sourced from the aborted instrument landing system project, which at that time had $3.2 million in CIP funds. Since the cancellation of the ILS project, these monies were moved to other Tinian projects, of which $500,000 was allocated for the harbor. Mendiola said this amount includes the design, assessment, installation of four new bollards, and removal of the harbor fender. The total cost of the emergency project is estimated at $700,000 after considering some supplemental funding requests.

TO HELP MANTA RAY BAND

Lions Club to hold fundraising car wash

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Saipan Marianas Lions Club is scheduled to hold a fundraising car wash on July 8, Sunday, at the parking lot of McDonald's Middle Road branch for the benefit of the Saipan Southern High School's Manta Ray Band.

The car wash will cost $5 for exterior cleaning only, and an additional $5 for vacuuming inside the vehicle. A package deal including tire foam wash is available for only $20.

Apollo M. Madriaga, president of the Saipan Marianas Lions Club, said that the car wash will be done by both Lions and band members.

Madriaga said they will be distributing at least 200 tickets for the band members and the Lions to reach the $1,000 goal in support of the Manta Ray Band's quest to travel to London next month to perform at the 2012 Summer Olympics.

The award-winning band is still short of the $250,000 amount they need for the trip.

"The Saipan Marianas Lions Club supports the talented Manta Ray Band as they reach for their goal to represent the CNMI with pride in the upcoming Olympics so we'll do our part to help them in their fundraising efforts," Madriaga told *Saipan Tribune*.

This would be the second time for the Saipan Marianas Lions Club to provide financial assistance to the Manta Ray Band, according to Madriaga. The club also raised funds in 2010 to help the band make it to New York for a historic performance at Carnegie Hall, the world's most famous concert hall.

"We hope that the community will support this fundraising car wash because all proceeds will go to the Manta Ray Band," said Madriaga.

He noted that those who do not want to avail of the car wash but are willing to help can still donate to the cause by making direct donations to the band. For more information, call 287-4501.

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Drama students head to Int'l Thespian Festival

On Saturday night, 29 students and six coaches from the Thespians of the Western Pacific Islands departed from the Saipan International Airport for the University of Nebraska at Lincoln for the International Thespian Festival. These students and coaches from Grace Christian Academy, Hopwood Junior High School, Marianas High School, and Saipan Southern High School will participate in a weeklong schedule of activities involving the many facets of theatre.

On Tuesday, students compete in their individual events, which are judged competitions.

Performance events include monologue—Mikhail Alcantara (HJHS), Chae Won Hwang (SSHS) and Ageline Sahagun (MHS); duet acting—Angela Cruz/Allexa Go (GCA), and Harold Aranda/ Jorem Guardian (MHS); solo musical theatre—Annabel Manzo (HJHS), and Anna Rose Deleon Guerrero (SSHS); duet mime—Stephanie Lumbad/Mary Jane Pepito (HJHS), and Ray Mark Denora/ Julius Inocencio (SSHS); and group musical theatre—Mary Grace Barro/Darren Cajipo/Lady Dominique Canape/ Kelly Demapan/Gemmilie Eugenio/Mariel Ferrer/Mark Gonzales/Rosemarie Liangco/ Patrick Llaban/Matthew Lopez/Jennella Nelmida/Rolando Sangalang (MHS).

Technical theatre events include costume design—Hannah Alcordo (MHS); scenic design—Dennis De Guia (MHS); theatre marketing—Yong Jeong Kim (SSHS); and short film—Salvi Villanueva (MHS).

Also on Tuesday and Wednesday, the high school juniors will audition with more than 40 colleges for admission into their programs and seniors will audition for scholarships.

On Wednesday, the students will participate in the Chapter Select Showcase at the Johnny Carson Theatre and present three one-act shows from *All in the Timing* by David Ives. Specifically, *Sure Thing* will feature Harold Aranda, Angela Cruz, Allexa Go, Jorem Guardian, Julius Inocencio, Stephanie Lumbad, Annabel Manzo, and Mary Jane Pepito. *The Universal Language* will be presented by Ray Mark Denora and Ageline Sahagun. *Variations on the Death of Trotsky* will feature Mikhail Alcantara and Chae Won Hwang. Salvi Villanueva has a cameo role in two of the shows.

On Thursday, the students will participate in the Free Style Theatre at the Johnny Carson Theatre, and present two more one act shows from *All in the Timing* by David Ives. *Words, Words, Words* will be presented by Jorem Guardian, Anna Rose Deleon Guerrero and Matthew Lopez. *Philip Glass Buys a Loaf of Bread* will feature the MHS Rhythm and Harmony musical group.

In addition to the individual events, auditions and performances, the students will watch shows presented by other schools from around the nation, on the main stage Lied Theatre or in the Howell Theatre, or watch other Chapter Select and Free Style productions. They will also have the opportunity to attend numerous workshops on various theatre topics from how to wear a wig to speaking in dialects.

They may even have a chance to meet Thomas Schumacher, a Broadway producer and head of Disney Theatrical Group, who will be presenting a lecture on Monday, and attending the Tuesday production of the Disney show *Tarzan* at the Lied, as it is introduced to the high school market.

Coaches on this trip will not only supervise the students as they compete, perform and attend shows, but also have the opportunity to attend educators' symposiums and classes and workshops designed specifically for them. The coaches include Carmalita Ada (HJHS), Jojo Alepuyo (MHS), Ami Joy Danganan (GCA), Paul Dujua (MHS), Wesley Foster (MHS), and Dora B. Miura (SSHS).

The International Thespian Festival occurs once each year and is a great opportunity for students to experience theatre, life on a college campus, and the collaboration and camaraderie of other students from around the world. ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Students and coaches from the Thespians of the Western Pacific Islands have their picture taken at the Saipan International Airport before departing for the International Thespian Festival at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln.

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
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SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
PERIMETER FENCE/ROADSIDE/DITCH/
AND RESTRICTED AREA GRASS CUTTING
PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-003-12

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority is soliciting sealed proposals for perimeter fence/roadside/ditch and restricted area grass cutting for a period of **two years** at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The scope of work entails providing continuous grass cutting services for the Airport as described in the scope of work. The **proposal package** which includes the **scope of work, evaluation factors, draft agreement, and insurance requirements** will be available at the Office of the Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building beginning **Monday, June 11, 2012**. Proposers must submit all required documents listed in the scope of work. All responses to this RFP shall also take into account any and all costs that will be charged to the proposer awarded the contract for the project. Proposers shall also take into consideration all necessary badging requirements and fees for this project.

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: *"Perimeter Fence/Roadside/Ditch and Restricted Area Grass Cutting at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport."* One original and three (3) copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than **2:00 P.M. LOCAL TIME, FRIDAY, JUNE 29, 2012**, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport.

All proposals will be evaluated based on the following factors: (1) price, (2) company experience, (3) company experience, (4) sufficiency of workers, (5) available resources (funds and groundwork tools and equipment) and (6) valid CNMI Business License.

A **pre-proposal conference** will be held at the CPA Conference Room, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, at **10:00 am, Friday, June 22, 2012** to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. All prospective proposers may attend. Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director in writing at least 7 days prior to the pre-proposal conference.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding proposal rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

CPA assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of offeror's preparation of the proposal or supply under the contract. This RFP does not commit to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services.

All proposals shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority. Proposals received after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ EDWARD M. DELEON GUERRERO
Executive Director

Date: May 30, 2012

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
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SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
TRASH COLLECTION SERVICES
PROJECT NO. CPA-IFB-003-12

INVITATION FOR BIDS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting sealed bids for **Trash Collection Services** for a period of **two years** at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The scope of work entails providing trash collection services for the Airport as described in the scope of work. The **bid package** which includes the **scope of work, draft agreement, and insurance requirements** will be available at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building beginning **Friday, May 25, 2012**. Bidders must submit all required documents listed in the scope of work. All responses to this IFB shall also take into account any and all costs that will be charged to the bidder awarded the contract for the project. Bidders shall also take into consideration all necessary badging requirements and fees for this project.

All bids shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: *"Proposal for the Trash Collection Services at the Francisco C. Ada/ Saipan International Airport".* One original and three (3) copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than **2:00 P.M. LOCAL TIME, MONDAY, JUNE 25, 2012**, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, at which time and place the bids will be publicly opened and read.

The apparent lowest bidder may be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are "responsive and responsible." This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous project experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and insurance requirements. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be "responsive and responsible," their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

A **pre-bid conference** will be held at the CPA Conference Room, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, at **9:00 am, Tuesday, June 12, 2012** to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. All prospective bidders may attend. Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director in writing at least 7 days prior to the pre-bid conference.

Each bidder must supply all information required by the bid proposal documents and specifications.

Contractor will be required to obtain insurance policies based on CPA's requirements. Copies of the insurance requirements may be obtained with the scope of work at the office of the Executive Director.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bids submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Invitation For Bids; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

CPA assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of offeror's preparation of the bid or supply under the contract. This IFB does not commit CPA to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the bid under this request, or to procure or contract for services.

All bids shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority. Bids received after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ EDWARD M. DELEON GUERRERO
Executive Director

May 15, 2012
Date

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Jun. 25, 2001

Direct loan moratorium remains

Once the economy shows signs of recovery and loan payments improve, the Commonwealth Development Authority may start looking at the possibility of lifting its 10-month moratorium on direct loans. CDA Board Chair Juan S. Tenorio, in a recent interview, noted that the Commonwealth economy's apparent slow recovery and the poor debt payment of direct loan borrowers continue to prevent his office from reinstating its direct loan program. Currently, Tenorio said $48 million in direct loans or Economic Development Loan Funds remain uncollected from its borrowers.

Candidates urged: Beat the deadline

The Commonwealth Election Commission will stop accepting applications for candidacy on August 5, to give the agency more time in preparing for the November general elections. The election commission will begin accepting application on July 6, after Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio signed into law House Bill 12-393, which shortens the allowed time frame for candidates to file their respective applications. In a media statement released by the commission Friday, election officials urged political candidates and petitioners to take note of the changes made on dates of filing of applications.

Jun. 25, 2002

Court: Landowner entitled to compensation

The Superior Court ordered the government to compensate a landowner whose real estate property in Tanapag was turned into a public roadway amid an unconsummated land exchange deal. Associate Judge Virginia Sablan-Onerheim ruled that since the government took her property, Julia Kotomar Norita, the plaintiff, was entitled to just compensation. The government, in its pleading filed before the lower court, had contended that there is no direct cause of action for just compensation for a taking under the Land Exchange Act and/or under the NMI and United States Constitutions.

Bill underscores value of education

Moves are underway in the CNMI Senate to make the General Education Development, or GED, a statutory mandate in the educational system of the CNMI. In introducing Senate Bill 13-61 or the General Education Act of 2002, Sen. Pete P. Reyes cited the importance of education in bringing about highly skilled and knowledgeable pool of local workers. "The success of any nation, including the CNMI, is heavily reliant upon the importance it places on the enhancement of the quality of its human resources to realize its economic goals," Reyes emphasized.

Jun. 25, 2003

Saipan landfill will star in EPA confab

Saipan's success story in finally having a state-of-the-art landfill will take center stage this Friday, when Lt. Gov. Diego T. Benavente makes his presentation during the 22nd Annual Pacific Islands Environment Conference in Honolulu, Hawaii. This comes even as the Babauta administration disclosed that it is now looking for funding so it could begin the rehabilitation of the old Puerto Rico dump. Benavente, together with a delegation, left the CNMI Monday to participate in the week-long conference, which is being held under the auspices of the Environmental Protection Agency. It was learned that the CNMI delegation will have its turn for the presentation on the Marpi landfill this Friday, during the part of the program called "Solid Waste Successes."

CUC workers assured of their job tenure amid privatization

Power generation personnel working at the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s power plants will be absorbed by the winning private bidder, should CUC's proposed privatization plans push through. Their annual pay and privileges shall also be retained under a privatized setup. "The successful bidder will undertake to employ all existing CUC generation personnel at Power Plant-1 and Power Plant-2 at the same annual salary and benefits," said the CUC board's operations committee in its five-page proposed privatization plan. The committee, headed by newly elected board chairman Herman P. Sablan, said the winning bidder will be selected based on its experience, and the experience of the engineering firm that would be sub-contracted to do the privatization project. Based on CUC's work specification, the CUC would solicit bids from independent and reliable power producers to modernize, upgrade, operate, maintain, and transfer the PP1.

JKPL to offer cultural, sports programs via 'Project CLAP'

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Registration is ongoing for the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library Cultural and Sports Literacy After-School Programs or Project CLAP.

A pilot cultural and health literacy outreach program, Project CLAP is a collaboration between JKPL and the Chamolinian Cultural Village, Inc. and is funded by the Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant under Project Brabu of the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.

» Registration open until June 27

Executive director John O. Gonzales of JKPL, the Commonwealth's public library, said that Project CLAP includes various cultural and sports classes and programs that are open to both youth and adults.

These include T-ball for children 8 years old and below; baseball for ages 9 and up; basketball for ages 9 and up; family Zumba/aerobics; mamfug/faifai or weaving; beads; mwaar; ukulele; Finu'Chamorru; Kapasaal Refaluwasch; traditional Chamorru dance; and traditional Refaluwasch dance.

Programs will begin July 2 and end Sept. 29, from 8am to noon, with cultural classes to be held on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday while sports programs are scheduled on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday.

Registration for all programs is free and ongoing at the library and selected schools—Tanapag, Kagman, Koblerville, Gregorio T. Camacho, and San Antonio elementary schools, and at Chacha Oceanview Jr. High School.

The programs, Gonzales said, will be held at "remote satellite communities" at GTC and Tanapag elementary schools in the north, San Antonio and Koblerville elementary schools and the Koblerville Youth Center in the south; and the Kagman Elementary School, Kagman Community Center, Kagman 2 open sports field, and the Chacha Oceanview Jr. High School in the east.

He explained that the target sites were selected to offer convenience and ease of access.

"JKPL is grateful to [the Public School System] for offering its target school sites to provide these valuable and timely cultural and sports outreach after-school programs to our target population of children, youth, and accompanying parents/guardians to learn both indigenous cultural arts and crafts and develop a culture of health and fitness through sports activities," he added.

Deadline for registration is on June 27.

Gonzales noted that the various programs will be ascertained based on the number of registered participants.

"If there is not enough registrants or participants, some programs will be cancelled and the corresponding federal grant funds will be returned. So we encourage families to register immediately," he added.

The cultural and sports programs that will proceed and those that will depend on registration data will be finalized at a meeting tomorrow, June 26, 5pm at JKPL in Susupe. Orientation for selected instructors will be on Thursday, June 28 at 3pm also at the state library.

For more information, call JKPL at 235-READ (7323) or 7315.

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy birthday to our All-Star, Nathaniel Cabrera Torres! Enjoy this special day and God bless! We love you! Greetings come from your family and friends!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.mp

AUCTION NOTICES

The Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC), as auctioneer and seller, hereby gives notice that all the rights, title and interests of NMHC in and to the following described real property will be sold at auction:

LOT NO.:	001 C 57	MORTAR LN., SAN ROQUE, SAIPAN	**MINIMUM BID:**	$68,230.00
LOT NO.:	006 T 18	SAN JOSE VILLAGE, TINIAN	**MINIMUM BID:**	$56,219.36

The auction will be open to the general public and will be held at NMHC's conference room, Garapan, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. on June 26, 2012, subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. Minimum Bid. The minimum acceptable bid for each property shall be $(please see above).
2. Reserve. The auction sale shall be held with reserve.
3. Rights and Duties of NMHC as Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable law of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, NMHC shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
   a. To withdraw any property listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
   b. To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c. To reject any and all bids.
4. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Mr. Jesse S. Palacios, Acting Corporate Director, NMHC, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950; Telephone: 234-6866; Facisimile: 234-9021; or to Law Office of Vicente T. Salas, P.O. Box 501309, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7455, Fax: 234-7256.
5. Deposit; Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale by cash, cashier's check or credit card (Visa or Mastercard). The remaining balance will be due within three (3) calendar days of the auction sale. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within three (3) calendar days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will automatically revert to NMHC.
6. Change of Terms. NMHC reserves the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
7. Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. The interests of NMHC in the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property or any related documents will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.
8. Lease with Option to Purchase. NMHC gives notice that it will also consider bids or offers to lease the property, subject to the following additional terms and conditions:
   a. The Lease Price bid shall not be less than the listed Minimum Bid price.
   b. An up-front payment of ten percent (10%) of the Lease Price must be paid upon award by cash, cashier's check or credit card (Visa or Mastercard).
   c. The balance of the Lease Price shall accrue interest at six percent (6%) per annum.
   d. Monthly payments of the Lease will be considered rental payments only and not installments toward purchase and shall not grant the lessee any equity or ownership interest in the property or be construed in any way to encumber NMHC's rights, title and interest in the property beyond the granting of a lease for a specific term of years.
   e. Maximum acceptable Lease term shall be thirty (30) years.
   f. A lease agreement will be given upon receipt of the up-front payment and shall include:
      i. No alterations or improvements without the prior written consent of NMHC.
      ii. Lessee to insure property and improvements during the Lease term.
      iii. Lessee responsible for all utilities and other charges associated with the property.
      iv. Lease not to be assigned or mortgaged without prior written consent of NMHC.
      v. Failure to make a monthly payment grounds for termination and eviction.
      vi. Lease may, at the request of lessee, contain an Option to Purchase provision exercisable upon: (A) payment in full of the Lease Price; (B) the Lease not having been declared to be in default; and (C) payment of $100.00 option consideration. If the option is properly exercised, a quitclaim deed will be given.
   g. In the event of competing lease bids, greater weight will be given to the leasehold offer with the better price, shorter term and larger monthly payments.

Dated this 23rd day of May, 2012.

/s/ Jesse S. Palacios, Acting Corporate Director
Northern Marianas Housing Corporation

Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

WIC

ANNOUNCEMENT

The CNMI WIC (Women, Infants, and Children) Program is pleased to announce that they are now accepting applications for Saipan, Tinian and Rota Vendors.

All interested vendors may pick up an application at the main office located on Upper Navy Hill Building # N-25, starting April 05, 2012 through June 28, 2012 (Monday to Thursday) or request for an application via email at fabianu@cnmiwic.org.

Applications must be submitted to the CNMI WIC Program office no later than 4:00 p.m., June 28, 2012.

Prospective applicants are encouraged to carefully read through the information provided to ensure minimum qualifications are met.

Inquiries and technical questions may be directed to the Vendor Management Coordinator, Fabian M. Ulloa at (670) 664-4066, by email at fabianu@cnmiwic.org or by facsimile at (670) 664-4069.

USDA is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.

/s/ Juan N. Babauta
Chief Executive Officer
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

/s/ Carmen C. Cabrera
Administrator
CNMI WIC Program

Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

WIC

ANNOUNCEMENT

In an effort to strengthen our Program Integrity, the CNMI WIC Program would like to inform the General Public to report suspicious activities from WIC vendors and/or participants committing Fraud and Abuse by contacting the Quality Assurance Coordinator, Mr. Ponce Rasa at (670) 664-4068 and (670) 285-4068 or email at poncer@cnmiwic.org and the Vendor Management Coordinator, Mr. Fabian Ulloa at (670) 664-4066 and (670) 285-4073 or email at fabianu@cnmiwic.org.

Remember all tips or reports are kept confidential and callers may choose to remain anonymous.

USDA is an equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.

/s/ Juan N. Babauta
Chief Executive Officer
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

/s/ Carmen C. Cabrera
Administrator
CNMI WIC Program

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
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Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR

MEMBER

The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

High Court decision on airing nudity and expletives settles little

By an 8-0 vote, the Supreme Court properly has overturned sanctions against two television networks for broadcasting "indecent" content at a time when children might have been watching. But unanimity may have come at the cost of clarity.

Instead of deciding whether the Federal Communication Commission's prohibition of nudity and "fleeting expletives" between 6 a.m. and 10 p.m. violated broadcasters' First Amendment rights, the justices ruled only that the agency failed to provide Fox and ABC with fair warning that such programming would be judged unacceptable.

Tuesday's decision involved three programs: the 2002 and 2003 Billboard Music Awards broadcast by Fox and a 2003 episode of the ABC police drama "NYPD Blue." At the awards, Cher uttered the "F-word" and Nicole Richie used a variation on it. The offending "NYPD Blue" program, as Justice Anthony M. Kennedy put it, "showed the nude buttocks of an adult female character for approximately seven seconds." Fox was cited by the FCC for indecency but wasn't fined. The 45 stations that aired the "NYPD Blue" episode were each fined $27,500.

The U.S. 2nd Circuit Court of Appeals ruled for the networks on broad First Amendment grounds, concluding that the FCC'S indecency rules were so vague and inconsistently applied that they deterred "a vast amount of protected speech." The Supreme Court could have reached the same conclusion. Even more ambitiously, it could have revisited the 1978 ruling in which it upheld sanctions against a radio station that aired the late George Carlin's famous "Filthy Words" monologue. That opinion stressed that broadcasting deserves less 1st Amendment protection than other forms of communication because it is "uniquely pervasive" and "uniquely accessible to children."

In their brief, Fox's lawyers noted that this observation has been rendered obsolete by the proliferation of cable and satellite TV, the Internet, video games and other media. Also, the lawyers noted, technology unheard of in 1978 now allows parents to block programming they believe is inappropriate.

Instead of ruling broadly, however, the court held simply that Fox and ABC weren't given fair notice because their programs aired in 2002 and 2003, before the FCC had adopted its strict prohibition on "fleeting expletives" and nudity. Only Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, in a concurring opinion, said the court should revisit its 1978 ruling.

Sometimes it's wise for the court to rule narrowly, and in this case there may have been a reason for the court to sidestep the First Amendment issue. Apparently because she previously served on the 2nd Circuit, Justice Sonia Sotomayor did not participate in the case, creating the possibility of a 4-4 tie on a broader holding. Still, the constitutionality of vague "indecency" rules is likely to return to the court—unless the FCC acts on Kennedy's comment that the court's ruling "leaves the commission free to modify its current indecency policy." That's a hint the commission should take.

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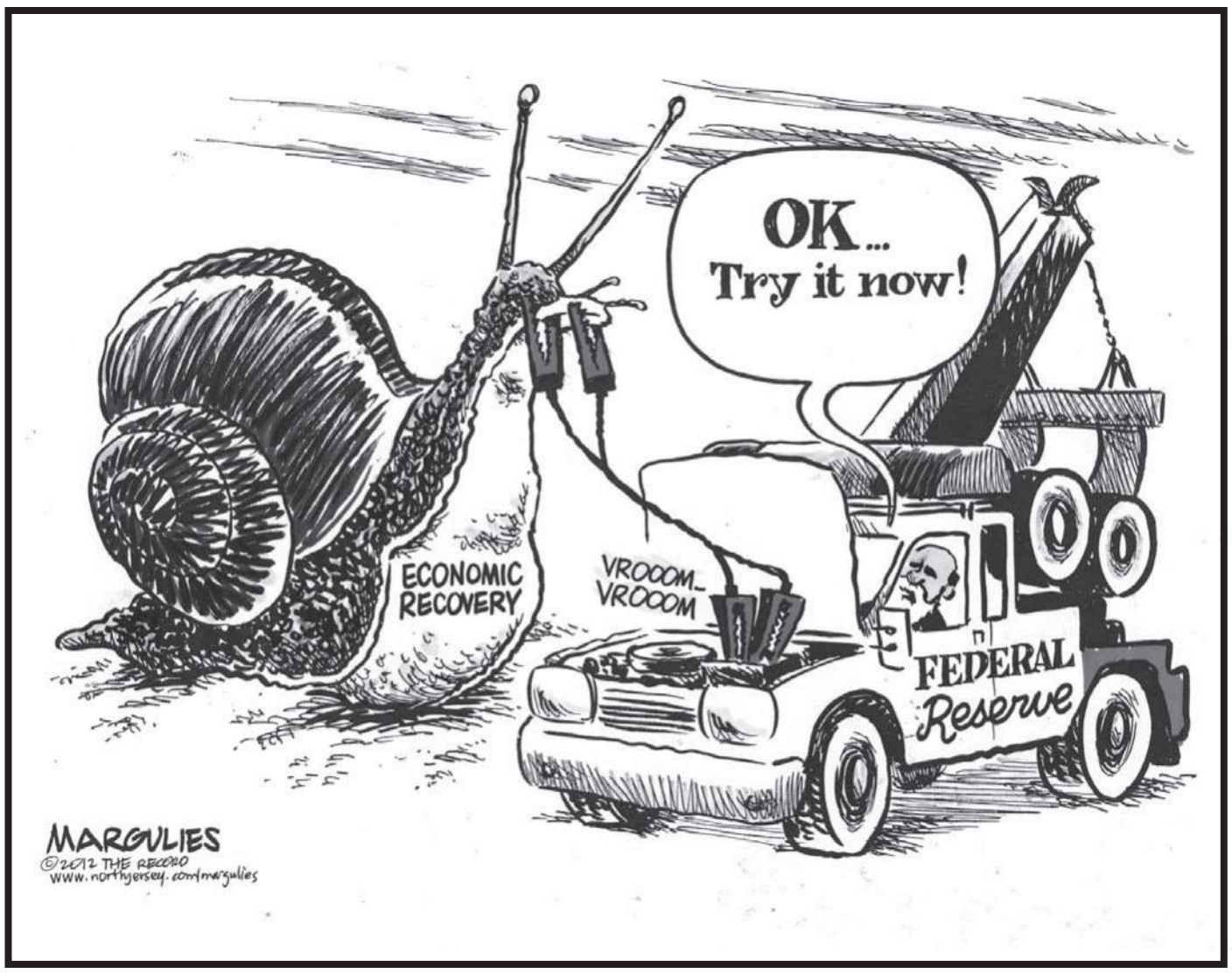


The need to create work for ourselves

By ANTHONY PELLEGRINO
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Pellegrino is a longtime businessman in the CNMI and is a former president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.

About 25,000 people die every day of hunger or hunger-related causes, according to the United Nations. This is one person every three and a half seconds. Unfortunately, it is children who die most often. Yet there is plenty of food in the world for everyone. The problem is that hungry people are trapped in severe poverty. They lack the money to buy enough food to nourish themselves.

Recently the local media reported a sad situation about the many local school children having to miss breakfasts and perhaps lunches. Because school was ending over 771,000 meals will be lost during the summer months. This affects about 40 percent of the islands' children who will be cut off.

The Salvation Army daily is operating a "food bank" to feed people who cannot afford to buy food. Consider the 11,000-plus food stamp recipients who now are getting less money monthly because of an accounting disagreement between the U.S. government and our local food stamp office. How do we explain a 32-hour week or a 24-hour week for all government workers?

"Nearly 75 percent of the potential [local] working population had earned its income in Japanese times from land rentals. Developing new work habits would not be easy. The pre-war economy had been built on imported labor…

"Saipan's immediate post-war economy was based on the employment of Chamorros and Carolinians as office workers, as skilled and unskilled laborers. This created a cash economy that allowed stores and other businesses to develop in Chalan Kanoa. As the islanders grew accustomed to working for the government, they spent less time farming and fishing. They relied to a great extent on American canned goods from the stores. …This was a false economy. As virtually nothing was being produced or manufactured."

The above quotes are from Don Farrell's *History of the Northern Marianas Islands,* pages 484 to488. There is more interesting history to remind us of our past. It seems we have changed our attitude little since those years. Are we producing anything today? Instead of weaning ourselves from dependency on outsiders, we are becoming more and more dependent on outsiders to feed and clothe us. Why are we doing this to ourselves? Why can't we produce thousands of pounds of vegetable and fruits monthly again and even more? Why do we remain so poor?

By now you are wondering where I am leading us by the above comments. What do people dying from hunger and why the quotes from Mr. Farrell's book have to do with us?

Here it is: **We must roll up our sleeves and begin doing our own work!** We must become our own builders and caretakers. We must learn trades and skills to produce our own means of support. We must begin to control our own destiny. Unless we do we will slide further deeper into our depression. And yes, we will become extremely poor and hungry. It can happen here and is happening slowly. We are fast becoming a beggar nation.

Many of us are still complaining that the United States must do more to help us. To a certain extent I also agree, but what are we doing to deserve this more help? To date the U.S. has already given us over $3.8 billion and is continuing its aid everyday. So when do we pitch in and begin helping ourselves? Are we always going to be dependent on outside help?

Think of what we would be like if the United States were to suddenly stop giving us this huge amount of money on a monthly and yearly basis? Think of no food stamps! Wouldn't we sink to the levels of some of the poorest countries in the world?

There are opportunities awaiting all of us if we just take the first step. Why can't we become carpenters, electricians, welders, painters, masons, heavy equipment operators, cooks, auto mechanics, store owners, shop keepers, farmers, and any of the many other opportunities awaiting us? Why must these workers always be nonresidents? Money and opportunities are available to learn a skill or to open a business. Ask around and you will be pleasantly surprised. The problem lies with us—lack of determination. Let's stop being freeloaders.

Every time I discuss this issue of creating work, some of us complain about the low wages paid. We're not going to work for that low, they say. But I have quite a few of talented local employees in my companies and I see others working in other companies for the same wages. Are they stupid or what? They work hard and accept what the pay scale is. Don't you think that the minimum wage would go up if we learned a skill or trade? How does Guam survive on a higher rate? Or is the real problem that many of us do not want to work regardless of the minimum wage?

Let me stick my neck out and sound off on how we can create work. For example, for the past weeks, "government" employees have been cutting down and trimming trees along Beach Road. Instead of having government employees do this job, couldn't it have been done cheaper and as well by a private tree trimming company?

All the road repairs and sewer lines repairs constantly going on

See NEED on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

A matter of contract rights

By PEDRO I. ITIBUS
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

On Dec. 13, 2011, the Department of Public Lands announced that marine sports operators, such as banana boat and parasail tour operators, would not be permitted to pick up customers on Mañagaha Island for their tours. Instead, only the company that has been granted the exclusive commercial concession on Mañagaha Island, and its subcontractors, would be permitted to begin tours from the island. This announcement received considerable public attention. Marine sports operators, primarily small companies, claimed that Public Lands had: (1) adopted a new rule without allowing for public comment, and (2) caused harm to their business opportunities. These operators argued in favor of an exception, which would permit them to pick up tour customers on Mañagaha Island whenever the tour had been sold prior to the customers landing on Mañagaha.

The basis of the December letter was the exclusive concession agreement for Mañagaha Island. This is a Public Lands contract that provides one company—in exchange for an annual payment to Public Lands—the sole right to operate all commercial concessions on the island. When the letter was issued, Public Lands was not adopting a new rule; instead, it was explaining the rights granted under this contract.

In order to avoid confusion, Public Lands must determine whether the December letter correctly interpreted the contract's provisions. We will undertake this task in a manner that will educate the public as to our management philosophy and obligations for Mañagaha Island. We will explain both the fundamental principles that govern our management, and the history of managing this precious resource. Then, we will examine the provisions of the contract between Public Lands and the company with the exclusive concession rights.

First, the Department of Public Lands is a trustee over public lands, and the beneficiaries are Northern Marianas descent persons. The secretary is charged with the highest standard of care in managing public lands. These principles derive from the CNMI Constitution and its public laws. Article 11 of the CNMI Constitution declares public lands to belong collectively to the people of the Commonwealth who are of Northern Marianas descent. That same article gave the Marianas Public Land Corp. the duty to manage and dispose of all surface lands. CNMI courts have long recognized that MPLC held these lands in trust and acted "in a fiduciary capacity" when it managed public lands. Among the court cases establishing this principle are *Romisher v. MPLC*, 1 CR 843, 848 (1983) and *Govendo v. MPLC,* 2 N. Mar. I. 482, 491 (1992) ("strict standard of fiduciary care"). MPLC was dissolved in 1994 by the governor's Executive Order 94-3. Today, the duty to manage and administer public lands is entrusted to the Department of Public Lands by statute (1 CMC Section 2801). That statute also provides for the continuation of the "strict standards of fiduciary care." Section 2802. Any decision with regard to the management of Mañagaha Island, as public land, must meet this standard.

Second, it is important to understand how persons of Northern Marianas descent benefit from the management of public lands. All money from Public Lands must be transferred to the Marianas Public Land Trust, which is a "co-trustee" in managing public lands. MPLT receives the revenues from the management and disposition of public lands and invests them for the benefit of all persons of Northern Marianas descent. Even though MPLC could be, and was, abolished, MPLT exists in perpetuity. These principles were set forth as the law of the land by the Commonwealth Supreme Court in *Dept. of Public Lands v. CNMI,* 2010 MP 14, ¶¶ 3, 30.

Third, while there are, at least in theory, basically two different approaches that may be taken with regard to managing Mañagaha Island, Public Lands chose its approach 23 years ago. That approach must still be followed today.

One approach is to aim to derive the highest dollar value from the use of the land with this money being used publicly for the benefit of a large number of persons of Northern Marianas descent. The other approach is to provide broad commercial access to Mañagaha Island so that small business owners of Northern Marianas descent may use the island to make money for their personal benefit.

In 1988, MPLC adopted the first approach in managing Mañagaha Island. MPLC decided to select by competitive bid a single company to receive the exclusive rights to all commercial concessions related to Mañagaha Island, with the exception of transportation. There were two reasons for adopting this approach. The first reason was to place the responsibility for the island's cleanliness and maintenance on the shoulders of a single company. Prior experience taught that when several companies had access to the island, the area was not kept clean and the structures were not repaired. Each company placed the blame on the other. The exclusive concession contract would resolve this by placing these responsibilities on the company that won the bid. The second reason was that granting *exclusive* rights to the commercial concessions on Mañagaha Island would yield the highest dollar value. This approach is consistent with Public Lands meeting its fiduciary duty. A trustee has a duty to use reasonable care to preserve the trust property (cleanliness and maintenance obligations) and to make the trust property productive (obtain the highest rental price).[1]

The strategy to maximize returns by offering an exclusive concession succeeded. On July 2, 1989, MPLC awarded a five-year exclusive concession on Mañagaha Island in return for an advance payment of $4,170,000 and improvements to the Mañagaha pier worth up to $500,000. To date, this is the highest fee ever paid by a private company for the use of public lands in the CNMI. A great many persons of Northern Marianas descent have benefited from the Mañagaha Island concession contracts. The money was used to build infrastructure (e.g., sewers, roadways) critical to the establishment of the Dandan and As Matuis homesteads. The money was used to the ultimate benefit of all the homesteaders in both of these subdivisions, who are, by definition, persons of Northern Marianas descent. This contract has been re-bid and renewed several times since then.

This management approach not only meets Public Lands' fiduciary duty by maximizing the value of Mañagaha Island as an asset, but also spreads the benefit to the greatest number of beneficiaries. When local water sports operators seek access to the customers on Mañagaha Island, they seek to do so *without paying these exclusive concession fees*. Their access would benefit very few persons of Northern Marianas descent while depriving a great number of persons of the benefit of the high concession payments. This second approach, in general, would violate the fiduciary duty to deal with beneficiaries impartially.[2]

This brings us to the issue. The issue is whether the exclusive concession contract permits water sports operators, who have not paid for concession rights, to pick up customers for tours that begin on Mañagaha Island. These operators argue that they should be permitted to pick up customers so long as they do not solicit these customers on Mañagaha Island. In other words, they wish to be allowed to pick up customers who have purchased their tours prior to visiting Mañagaha Island.

Since Public Lands long ago adopted a management approach to Mañagaha Island and has entered a contract for the exclusive concession on the island, this issue is answered by examining the language of the existing contract. The Agreement for Special Recreational Concession (Mañagaha Island) granted on Oct. 4, 2006, states in section 3A: "Concessionaire shall have the exclusive rights to operate all commercial concessions on Mañagaha Island during the term of this Agreement." The contract is very specific in section 3B as to the categories of rights it is intended to cover:

The term "commercial concessions" includes the right to prepare, deliver, sell, and provide food or beverages on the island for all persons who desire to purchase the same; the rental or sale of water sports equipment, recreational equipment, or beach equipment and related supplies; *the conduct of tours on the island and from the island*; the sale of goods on the island; and the provision of entertainment for profit on the island. (Emphasis added.)

The highlighted language shows that the exclusive concession was intended to extend to "tours." It is very significant that the contract does not just state "tours," which would leave the possibility it was intended to apply only to tours conducted on the island. By expressly breaking "tours" down to those conducted "on the island" *and* those conducted "from the island," the contract shows the parties intended the reach of the exclusive rights to extend to water sports tours that start from the beach or the pier of Mañagaha Island. This is consistent with the history of the management of the island, which shows the intent to maximize revenues by offering a broad scope of exclusive rights.

The parties to the contract intended the exclusive rights to cover parasailing, banana boating, and other water sports tours, because these tours are expressly listed in the very same section that grants exclusivity. Section 3B(1) lists two types of tours that would be conducted from the island by the company with the exclusive concession rights:

C. Operate underwater activities, such as scuba diving, snuba diving, snorkeling, and sea walker-type tours,

D. Operate surface water activities, such as *parasailing, banana boat rides*, pedal bikes, power boat lagoon cruises, windsurfing, canoe rentals and tours, and kayak rentals and tours. (Emphasis added.)

There is no support in the language of the contract for making a distinction between tours sold on Mañagaha Island and those sold prior to the customer reaching Mañagaha Island. The clear language of the Concession Agreement shows that exclusivity is based upon the location of the activity (the tour)—not the location of the sale of the tour.

In conclusion, the contract shows Public Lands must restrict the conduct of tours from Mañagaha Island, including parasailing and banana boat tours, to the company, which holds the contract rights to the exclusive concession and its subcontractors. Other marine sports operators may *not* pick up customers from Mañagaha Island and then take them on water sports tours. Any statement or suggestion by Public Lands to the contrary is hereby rescinded. It makes no difference whether these tours were pre-sold or not. It makes no difference whether the tour is one-way from Mañagaha Island or a round-trip. Any tour from Mañagaha Island must be conducted by or sanctioned by the exclusive concessionaire.

There are at least three reasons for enforcing these contract rights as written: (1) Public Lands has a contractual duty to ensure the company with exclusive concession rights receives the benefits of its contract; (2) Public Lands has a fiduciary duty to maximize the value of the public lands entrusted to it and the failure to enforce these rights at present will seriously affect the bid price when the concession is put to bid in the future; and (3) limiting tours to the company and its subcontractors ensures these tours are conducted by responsible marine sports operators. This is because the company with the exclusive concession is required to keep in place a high level of insurance for the operations of itself and its subcontractors. This level of insurance is available only to companies that are well-capitalized and experienced. This protects both the tourist and government.

As this is a matter of contract rights, no further public comment is needed or sought. Public Lands will resume enforcing these exclusive rights immediately.

Pedro I. Itibus is the acting secretary of the Department of Public Lands.

[1] These rules as to fiduciary duty are set forth in the Restatement (Second) of Trusts at sections 176 and 181, which were adopted as CNMI law by statute.

[2] This is another rule as to fiduciary duty set forth in the Restatement (Second) of Trusts § 183.

NEED

From Page 10

around our islands, can't they all be done by locally owned companies with a local labor force? What is so special with nonresident workers? Are they all highly trained skilled workers? I doubt that. They appear to be mere day laborers. Couldn't all the auto repair shops be locally owned with local employees doing the work? Why are there so few locally owned grocery stores? On and on!

There are so many opportunities for work that could be done by or delegated to the private sector. Why do they all have to be done by the government agencies and nonresident workers while so many local people line up for food stamps?

All government employees are on a four-day week. Our hospital is slowly sinking into a coma. Retirement pay is fast becoming a dream. The food stamp lines are getting longer daily with less food stamps to hand out. School children are going without breakfasts and lunches because parents cannot afford them. The Salvation Army has set up a free food shop as in the old Depression days. Now reread the first several paragraphs I wrote at the beginning of this article. Can you see the path we are taking? To poverty!

We must become the workers in our community if we want to reverse the downward spiral. Plainly stated: **We must change our attitude toward work.** We must take up our plows and begin to work. Not only will we begin to earn money for our daily necessities but we will earn a greater benefit—pride in ourselves!

Why aren't we holding public forums to discuss how to create local jobs? It would be a perfect place and time to exchange ideas on helping our community and ourselves. Will someone take me up on this idea? Let us discuss how we can create jobs for us, the local people.

To some of us I may sound like a broken record repeating the same message weekly about the need to improve ourselves. But to some of us the message is getting through and I can see changes. With the proper attitude and pride being shown by the handful, there is great hope for us. To the rest of us who do not believe in what I keep repeating, what more can I say? Just turn to the sports pages and I will be gone.

Someone once said: "There are no menial jobs, only menial attitudes." And I add: When we change our attitude, we change our world. Keep smiling and have a great week!

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Southeast winds around 10 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Southeast winds 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼78°	▲88 ° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°

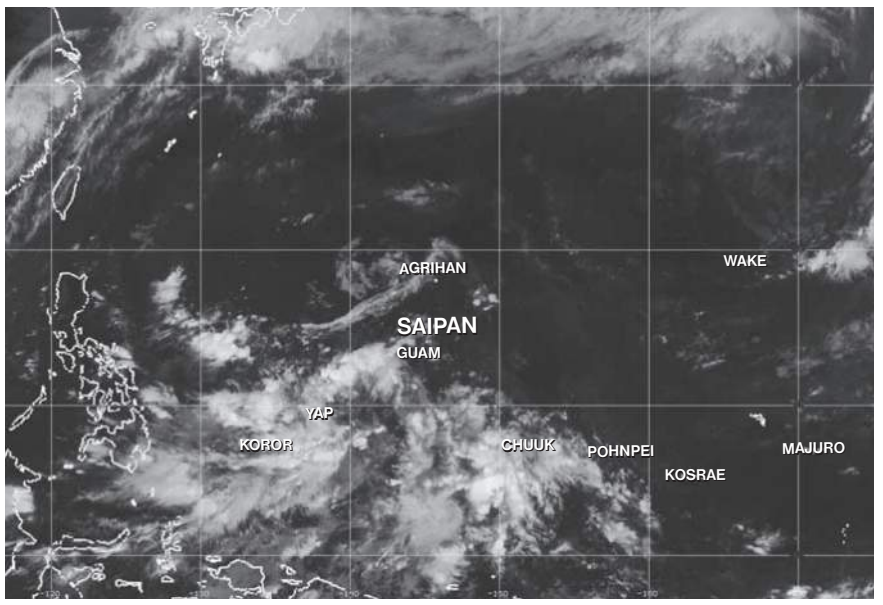
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲87	▼80
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼75
Yap	Showers	▲89	▼77
Chuuk	Showers	▲84	▼77
Pohnpei	Showers	▲84	▼75
Kosrae	Showers	▲84	▼75
Majuro	Showers	▲85	▼79

Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲58	▼53
Beijing	Mostly Cloudy	▲81	▼69
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲90	▼84
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲83	▼73
London	Partly Cloudy	▲69	▼54
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲73	▼59
Manila	Thundershowers	▲88	▼79
Melbourne	Showers	▲55	▼43
Miami	Thundershowers	▲84	▼80
New York	Thundershowers	▲76	▼61
Osaka	Thundershowers	▲80	▼69
Paris	Showers	▲71	▼52
Pusan	Windy	▲76	▼68
Rome	Sunny	▲87	▼66
Salem	Showers	▲65	▼49
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	▲58	▼52
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲87	▼66
Tokyo	Showers	▲72	▼62
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	▲87	▼66

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, JUNE 24, 2012
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A monsoon trough extends southeastward from a weak circulation centered well northwest of Koror near 15N130E to east of Chuuk at 7N156E. Widespread cloudiness, scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found across the large area bounded by 16N130E to west of Guam at 13N143E to 4N159E to EQ150E to EQ136E to 2N130E back to 16N130E including Palau, Yap and Chuuk. An upper-level low centered northwest of the Marianas near 18N142E is producing scattered showers and thunderstorms between 17N and 19N from 140E to 144E. A broad surface low-pressure system centered northeast of Wake Island near 24N173E is generating cloudiness and scattered showers north of 19N from 170E to the date line.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

11:40 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet
5:23 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.2 Feet
10:00 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
5:15 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:49 AM	6:50 PM
Tuesday	5:49 AM	6:51 PM
Wednesday	5:49 AM	6:51 PM
Thursday	5:50 AM	6:51 PM
Friday	5:50 AM	6:51 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	10:26 AM	10:55 PM
Tuesday	11:19 AM	11:37 PM
Wednesday	12:14 PM	
Thursday	1:10 PM	12:21 AM
Friday	2:10 PM	1:08 AM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 13, 2012

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)				**ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)**			
UA5062	2:40am	3:10am	1, 3, 5	UA5062	3:40am	5:40am	1, 3, 5
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				**GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN**			
UA5070	4:35am	5:25am	2, 4, 6, 7	UA5062	2:40am	4:15am	1, 3, 5
UA5062	4:50am	5:40am	1, 3, 5 via ROP	UA 5069	2:45am	3:35am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	Daily	UA5071	7:10am	8:00am	Daily
UA5074	11:30pm	12:20pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA5073	10:05am	10:55am	Daily
UA5076	3:10pm	4:00pm	Daily	UA5075	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5078	6:50pm	7:40pm	Daily	UA5077	5:25pm	6:15pm	Daily
UA5072	9:55pm	10:45pm	Daily	UA5079	8:35pm	9:25pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				**NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN**			
DL287	6:05am	8:45am	Daily	DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:20pm	Daily	DL288	8:15pm	12:50am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				**SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN**			
0Z606	2:20am	6:00am	1	0Z603	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
0Z606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	0Z605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
0Z604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily	0Z605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)				**GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN**			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				**SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN**			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				**MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN**			
0Z606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN	DL172/288	7:50am	12:50am+1	Daily via NRT
0Z606/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	UA190/5077	10:55am	6:15pm	3, 6 via GUM
				UA190/5079	10:55am	9:25pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA5070/191	4:35am	9:55am	3, 6 via GUM	0Z702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
DL287/173	6:05am	10:00pm	Daily via NRT	0Z702/605	12:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA5076/183	3:10pm	8:45pm	Daily via GUM				
UA5076/193	3:10pm	10:25pm	2, 5 via GUM-Palau	PR110/UA5071	10:10pm	8:00am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
0Z604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	Daily via ICN	UA192/5071	9:45pm	8:00am+1	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
UA5072/PR111	9:55pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	UA184/5071	10:55pm	8:00am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
				UA184/5071	11:25pm	8:00am+1	2, 5 via GUM
				0Z704/603	11:45pm	2:20pm+1	Daily via ICN
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				**HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN**			
0Z606/721	2:20am	11:50pm	1 via ICN	0Z724/603	12:30am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
0Z606/721	2:50am	11:50pm	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	0Z722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7
				0Z722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
UA5076/147	3:10pm	9:45pm	1, 5 via GUM	UA180/5071	10:35pm	8:00am+1	1, 5 via GUM
0Z604/723	3:30pm	10:40pm	Daily via ICN				

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

Estorian Marianas, Estoriata

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.*

Esta guaha 'nos kuantos leblu man-matuge' pot estorian (history) iya Marianas. Este siha na leblu tinige' otru tautau gi hafa sineda' niha pot finapos guelu yan guela gi antigu na tiempu siha.

Mauleg na intension lau guaha chinatsagaghu gi pinegan tinige' un' marineru haf' linie'ña guine. Seguru na ti baluchu si pindehu 'nai sige mañgge' pot natibu? Haf' taimanu tuñgohu na añgokuyon i tinige'ña? Kau magahet na ha komprende kutturan yan tradision tanu'?

I puntu: Guaha man-antau yan tatkilu' edukasion niha na tautauta siha. Haf' na ti siña siha u tinige' haf' estoriata? Dañkulu na difirensia kinemprenden unu ni ti tautau-ta gi este na pinetsige. Mas antau yangin enfin hita mismu tumuge' i estoria-ta.

■ ■ ■ ■

Muñga mañonge

Sessu si Guelon Fadañg ha apagat hit na muñga man-mañoñge gi halom tanu. Yangin un kontradise ennau na abisu, siña ha' mana' dinalalag, malañgu 'sino hinetdan hau.

Guaha siha sumusede mana' dinalalag. Yangin un' estotba i lugat guelu siña mana' dinalalag hau para iya hamyu dispues de un' diñgu ayu na halom tanu'. Guaha u fañiente na gai kompania hau gi finatomu tatte ginen i chagu'.

Pagu 'an un' disatentuye i lugat, siña ha' mana' malañgu hau. Deb i un' makoni'e suruhanu para u danche amanu sessu 'nai man-estotba hau. Prontu, debi un' fan gagau dispensasion.

Yangin mana' hinetdan hau, pues guiya este uttimu eskaleran mana' malañgu 'nai ti amtiyun chetnotmu. Ti satbayun i chenotmu ni un' ma-agañge suruhanu. Guaha lokue kasadules manhasuette. Maseha papa' dotse ha kone' ha' dañkulun ayuyu. Guahu unu hu tuñgu' na ti bai' mana malañgu lau ni unabes 'nai mana'eyu' teñguañghu para tatte giya hame. Kulan ha' yu' si kara'!

■ ■ ■ ■

Diariu na bisiu

Kada unu gai bisiu ni ha chochogue diariu. Pot ihemplu: Yahu mañge' asuntu siha. Guaha mapot yan ti mapot. Enfin, hu tuge' hafa gaige gi hinasoghu. Ti hu ekspepekta na in' fan konfotme lau estaya ta pañgun fina' konbetsasion.

Asuntun bisiu ha kone'yu' tatte gi tutuhon politika guine. Guaha 'nai hu pega kumu huegun bola. Bula man-e'ega' piot 'an Dameñgu deste famaguon esta man-amku'. I buleru (team) ni hu dadalalag era i territorio'. I mapedi ha' gi kada huegu. Gigon ha chule' i di'u duru manmagap i man-e'ega' sa para umapedi talu i territorio'.

Kontodu i tumatitiye i otru team (papula) man-madalalag ham pot mina'ase'. Gigon magpu' ya marimata ta'lu i teamhu, dimas de u guaha layu' duru i chaleg. Tantu de man-mapedi i buleron mame, esta man-eyag mauleg na sensian pedi. Guaha lokue' ni hu faisen maisayu' kau ti matuñgu man-bola na mafa' bisiu mapedi? Ai, lau achog man-pedi esta kontra grasia ke inalayu'.

■ ■ ■ ■

Eskomen Mai'es

Hu lie' un' lusuñg gi hiyoñg gima' un' cheluhu. Gaige lokue' gi un' banda mitate yan manu. Hana' hassuyu' un' tiempu 'nai umeskome mai'es i amku'. Gai buruka na cho'chu'.

Finenina un' gugan i mai'se, dispues mapega gi bariles, mana'ye hanom yan afog ya masumai. 'Nos kuantos dias dispues, malagnos i mai'es ya mahinagua ya maguleg gi hilu' mitate ni manu.

I usun lusuñg kase lamayot patte gaige gi lomug amut antigu. Entre ennau yan malomug baba', suni yan lemai para sentadan familia. Sumen makat yan mahetug na achu'. 'An un' soda' gi fina' halom tanu', muñga humasupak mumueba gi sagaña sa' un' mana' hinetdan.

■ ■ ■ ■

Finaposta

Dispues de monhayan sumulu' ayuyu, ha birague i prohimu para i kareta. Mauleg ha pokate para u kesuda' i tumobit. Ha soda' dispues de dos oras. Mamatkilu. Gi kinekiyuñg para i señgsoñg ha sañgan na mana' abag-gue'. Tat ti fugu gi man-gachouñg. Ni unu esta malagu' dumalag sumulu'. De dios!

■ ■ ■ ■

Kada umasoda'ham gi fina' gupot antes, ha plantaye-yu' man-pairen chesa deste katdun patas guaka, fritada, katdun pechu, kelaguen higadun guaka, kelaguen mundoñgu yan inasnen tukun atulai yan tiau. Kada lokue' ha pega, ilegña, "Guiya este primu i chesan hari-ap (hurry up)". Magahet na man-sen paire na chesa ni humuchum lamayot patte gi gigat korasonmu ya un' hassu ambientomu 'nai esta atrasau.

■ ■ ■ ■

Masañgane i prohimu na kanset gofesña ya mauleg na u para chumupa. Dispues de kanset? Sotta ya u gosague' i prohimu sa' haye mas tumuñgu' ke guiya mismu?

Letter to the Editor

Stop the panhandling

This is a personal plea to all the parents in the CNMI. Please, for the love of your children, do not allow them to *panhandle* and *beg* on highway intersections and sides of streets.

I have heard from many friends who have talked about close calls, where they have witnessed little children almost getting hit by a car while panhandling, and I myself have seen a car slam on its brakes to avoid slamming into a child leaping out to collect a dollar that flew to the side of the road.

Aside from the clear and present danger of putting children along highways with speeding cars and the increasing possibility of injury and death, do we really want to be teaching our children to choose begging and panhandling over fundraising and hard work? What is going on here?

Children are not only panhandling, but they are becoming aggressive in the way they panhandle. They sometimes come right up to your window and knock on it, or shout at you when you don't give them any money. My 7-year-old daughter asked me why the Little League All-Stars were begging for money and I told them they needed money to go on a trip. Then she asked, "Why don't they do a lemonade stand or a bake sale? I would do that if I needed some money." She was absolutely right. When I was growing up on this island and we had to raise funds, we did car washes, bake sales, solicited corporate sponsors and did beach cleanups, mowed and bush-cut lawns, sold raffle tickets…you name it, we did it. There is no way any of us would ever panhandle. It was just not an option and something our parents would never allow us to do.

Have we ever stopped to think of the impact panhandling has on our tourism industry? When tourists see little children begging on every single intersection on our island, they probably think, "Wow, this is a Third World country." I am pretty sure this doesn't paint a pretty picture for our islands and does not bode well with potential investors.

I am addressing this letter to *all parents* of the CNMI, not our leaders. That would be a waste of time. You see, our leaders are too busy doing what they do best: lying, deceiving, and holding campaign rallies to place all the blame of today's problems on the tooth fairy and everyone else, except of course on themselves. So there is no way they would draft and pass a bill that would ban little children from panhandling on the streets because that might be controversial and doing the right thing might cost them a few votes. Therefore it is up to these children's parents to stop them from doing this. Please, do not wait until a child gets injured or killed. Let's stop this madness immediately.

Parents, if your able-bodied, healthy children want to go on a trip, then *pot fabot*, have them *work* for it. And if they do not come up with the needed funds to go on that trip, then it is a heartbreaking lesson in life that they must work harder next year. Plan ahead and hold fundraisers at the beginning of the year. Have every parent get involved and pledge to help. Open up a phonebook and seek corporate sponsors. I am sure there are a ton of businesses who will donate if they see our youth cleaning up the sides of the streets and beautifying our island.

I apologize for writing about this and being so blunt, because I know it is a very sensitive issue. But we must safeguard children and teach them that the last place they should be is in the middle of a small island on a highway where cars are traveling in excess of 40 miles per hour. We must also remind our kids that if you really want something in life, you must *work* for it, not *beg* for it.

Ed Propst
Dandan, Saipan

Fresh blood

If we could recall in our U.S. History classes, during the Depression in the United States (1930's), many suffered and many were forced to resort to the food line in order to get a decent meal. We should learn from the past to move forward and benefit from our learned behavior. Our father always said to us: "My children if you earned a dollar make sure you put away $0.60 cents for the rainy day." Such mentality was stuck or embedded in our brains and one should always be prepared when the rainy day comes. Also, based on our observation in our lives, suffering is good for the soul. One may not appreciate things if he or she does not earn things or suffer in life.

The problem in the CNMI is not the elected officials, the problem started way back during the Trust Territory era. Our people were entitled to USDA rations, money after typhoon, people were being hired based on family ties and the entitlement system was conceived during that time throughout the island chain. In order for us to break such cycle, bring in fresh ethnicities to our island chain, let them participate in our political system and create a check-and-balance in our society or let those other ethnicities who left our islands for greener pastures to participate in our election process. We have run across other ethnicities who were born and raised in the CNMI living throughout the United States. These are the individuals that needs to be encourage to participate in our political system, for they do not hold any family ties to the people who are running for public office in the CNMI. If we can recall, the last general election in the CNMI, majority of the candidates won from the absentee voters.

Also, it is good to have a bad economy in our island chain, because our people need to understand that things in life need to be earned and the mentality of "give me, give me, give me" is not the way.

The sad and good part of the world's economic downturn at this point in time is that poor people like us can easily buy multiple houses, farm lots for the penny on the dollar in the CNMI and in the United States. So, our economic despair throughout the world is a blessing in disguise for some of us and we look at the bottle as half full rather than half empty. In other words one should take advantage of our present situation in the CNMI.

One more thing, it is better to give than to receive and you would always get back thousand-fold indirectly in life. We need to understand that giving is more fulfilling than receiving.

Segundo Castro
CNMI Absentee Organization in the United States

Procurement And Supply
CNMI Government

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

RFQ NO.: RFQ12-DEQ-070
SUBMISSION: JULY 12, 2012 TIME: 2:00 P.M.

"PROVISION OF ENVIROMENTAL ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE PERFORMANCE OF ASTM PHASE II ENVIRONMENTAL SITE ASSESSMENT FOR SOIL OF POTENTIALLY CONTAMINATED BROWNFIELDS SITES ON SAIPAN FOR THE DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY"

The Scope of Work is available on or after **June 11, 2012** at the DEQ office located in the Gualo Rai Center Building, during regular working hours, Monday through Friday, except holidays.

A pre-proposal conference is scheduled for **June 28, 2012 at 9:00 a.m.** in the 2nd Floor DEQ Conference Room (Rm. 205).

This is a federally funded project; as such, local preference is not available because it's use is prohibited by federal law granting funding for this project.

/S/ FRANK M. RABAULIMAN
DIRECTOR, DEQ

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

JOE HILL, ESQ.,
HILL LAW OFFICES
P.O. BOX 500917, SAIPAN, MP 96950
PHONE: (670) 234-6806/7743
FAX: (670) 234-7753

ATTORNEY FOR PETITIONER

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

MIR MAHBOBUR RAHMAN, Petitioner, versus **JUDITH JULIAN KINOCH-RAHMAN**, Respondent.] FCD DI] CIVIL ACTION] NO. 12-0294] **SUMMONS**

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Petition for Divorce which is given you herewith, within thirty (30) days after service of this Summons upon you.

YOUR ANSWER SHOULD BE IN WRITING and filed with the Clerk of Court, Guma' Hustisia, Ilmwal Aweewee, House of Justice, P.O. Box 500307, Saipan, MP 96950 and served upon petitioner's counsel, Atty. Joe Hill, P.O. Box 500917, Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared and signed for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this Summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Petition for Divorce.

By order of the above Court:

Dated this 20th of June, 2012.

/s/Deputy Clerk of Court
Superior Court

BRUCE L. MAILMAN, #F0153
MAILMAN & KARA, LLC
PMB 238 PPP, Box 10,000
Saipan, MP 96950-8900
Telephone: 233-0081
Facsimile: 233-0090

ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF
WELLS FARGO FINANCIAL SAIPAN, INC.
aka WELLS FARGO FINANCIAL, INC.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

WELLS FARGO FINANCIAL SAIPAN, INC. aka WELLS FARGO FINANCIAL, INC.) CIVIL ACTION NO. 11-0291
Plaintiff, -v- LUCIA C. SABLAN Defendant.) **NOTICE OF SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court on May 17, 2012 in this matter, I will sell, at public auction to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth herein below, all of the right, title, and interest of defendant LUCIA C. SABLAN in and to the following real property located at Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands:

LOT 1749-NEWB-18, (PART OF LOT 1749-NEWB PART OF ORIGINAL LOT 1749, TD 305), AS MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED ON DRAWING/CADASTRAL PLAT NO. 2012/94, THE ORIGINAL OF WHICH WAS RECORDED OCTOBER 22, 1993 AS DOCUMENT NO. 93-3795 AT THE OFFICE OF THE COMMONWEALTH RECORDER, SAIPAN.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on July 2, 2012, at the hour of 4:00 p.m., at the law offices of Mailman & Kara, LLC, 2nd Floor, Tan Marikita Bldg., Beach Road at Cpl. Derence Jack Street, Garapan, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Inspection of Property. It is the responsibility of each bidder to inspect the property prior to the sale. Failure to inspect the property or any portion thereof will not constitute ground for any claim, adjustment, or rescission by any buyer.

Warranties and Covenants. All property listed for sale in this Notice will be sold in its current condition, and at its current location. The sale will be held without any warranties or covenants whatsoever, whether express or implied, including but not limited to warranties of title, merchantability, and/or fitness for any purpose whatsoever, all of which warranties and covenants are hereby expressly disclaimed. Neither the undersigned nor the plaintiff may give any warranty or covenant, express or implied, with respect to the property listed for sale in this Notice. Neither the undersigned nor the plaintiff shall be liable for the quality of the property listed for sale in this Notice, or for any fault or defect in the description thereof. Buyers shall not be entitled to rescission, damages, or any other remedy on account thereof.

Conduct of Sale.

a. Reserve. The auction sale may be held with reserve. The reserve price on any property offered for sale may or may not be disclosed to bidders, in the sole discretion of the undersigned.

b. Rights and duties of auctioneer. Consistent with the laws, customs, and usages of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales, the undersigned shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale: (1) to withdraw the property listed for sale in this Notice before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted; (2) to adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and (3) to reject, on behalf of the seller, any or all bids, for any reason.

c. Bids. Bids may be submitted in advance for any or all of the property listed in this Notice. The highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Advance bids may be submitted only in writing, signed by the bidder, and delivered to the law offices of Mailman & Kara, LLC, 2nd Floor, Tan Marikita Bldg., Beach Road at Cpl. Derence Jack Street, Garapan, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The bidder assumes all risk of non-delivery, late delivery, or mis-delivery of bids. Any person, including the plaintiff, may bid in person at the auction sale, whether or not such person has submitted an advance bid.

d. Disputes. The undersigned may resubmit any property listed in this Notice if a dispute arises as to any bid thereon.

Enforcement of Auction Sale.

a. Deposit. Every successful bidder shall pay to the undersigned a deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price immediately after the sale is consummated. Payment shall be in cash or by certified check. The balance must be paid to the plaintiff, in care of Mailman & Kara, LLC, within three (3) days from the date of sale, in cash or by certified check. If the balance is not so paid, plaintiff will retain the deposit as liquidated damages, and will again offer the property for sale.

b. Memorandum of Sale. If requested by the undersigned, every successful bidder must sign a Memorandum of Sale, immediately after the sale of any property is struck off at auction.

c. Court Approval. Every sale may be subject to approval by the Court. The auctioneer makes no warranties or promises with respect to court approval of the sale, including but not limited to the time in which such approval may be granted. No delay in the granting of court approval shall be ground for any claim, adjustment, or rescission by any successful bidder. The successful bidder will be promptly notified if and when court approval is sought, and if and when it is granted.

Change of Terms and Conditions. The undersigned and the plaintiff reserve the right to change any of the terms hereof by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on all bidders by constructive notice.

DATED, this 7th day of June , 2012.

/s/ RONNIE D. HODGES, Auctioneer

Pacific

Pacific committed to mitigating civil aviation threats

SUVA, Fiji—At a regional aviation security meeting last week, directors of civil aviation in the Pacific reaffirmed their commitment to mitigate the ongoing threats posed to civil aviation, given the severe social and economic impacts that would result if such threats were realized.

The reaffirmation was made at the Regional Meeting of Directors of Civil Aviation organized by SPC in collaboration with the Office of Transport Security of the Australian Government Department of Infrastructure and Transport at SPC's Regional Office in Suva, Fiji on June 20–21, 2012.

Terrorism, the major threat to aviation security, is transnational in nature and therefore a high degree of inter-agency collaboration is required to mitigate it.

The more than 45 delegates who participated in this year's meeting comprised representatives from the Pacific Island governments (civil aviation), the private sector, and regional and international organizations, including the International Civil Aviation Organization.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Participants in the Regional Meeting of Directors of Civil Aviation have their picture taken in Suva, Fiji on June 21, 2012.

Now in its third year, this forum has evolved to become the key regional meeting of aviation security regulators in the Pacific.

One of SPC's key roles under the regional *Framework for Action on Transport Services* is to support efforts to develop safe, secure, reliable and affordable aviation transport services across the Pacific Island countries and territories.

"While we are often preoccupied with safety concerns here in the islands, it is important we don't lose sight of other important issues such as aviation security," said John Hogan, director of SPC's Economic Development Division, in his opening speech.

"Coming together on annual basis helps us do this.

"The reality, after all, is that aviation is critical to the economic and social development of PICTs. This takes on an added element of importance when we consider the huge numbers of tourists visiting our collective shores each year," Hogan said.

The meeting noted the progress made by SPC's Transport Program in the collection and dissemination of information to PICTs through regular publications as well as the initiation of a data collection and retention program.

In January 2012, SPC launched the *Aviation Information Bulletin*, which provides monthly updates on aviation news relevant to PICTs. In less than six months, the number of subscribers increased to 250.

In July this year, SPC and the Association of South Pacific Airlines will launch a joint regional aviation magazine—*Pacific Skies*—which will aim to communicate about aviation related issues affecting the region to industry, governments, international organizations, and various donor agencies.

The high rate of turnover of staff in the aviation sector presents significant challenges to PICTs and requires ongoing capacity building support from development partners in the region.

The sector is taking the "many partners, one team" approach espoused in the regional transport framework very seriously, and this was recognized by the meeting. Improved coordination was evident between donors and partners such as the Australian and New Zealand governments, the U.S. Transportation Security Administration, regional organizations such as the Pacific Aviation Safety Office and SPC, and international organizations such as ICAO, in coordinating their capacity building activities across the region.

The meeting also noted the work of other key agencies in the sector such as the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank and the Airports Council International.

Delegates present at the meeting expressed their commitment to work together to promote the exchange of information and ideas and develop, where possible, regional approaches to the achievement of aviation security outcomes.

PICTs are also expected to benefit from improved information dissemination with regard to changes to international requirements and civil aviation rule amendments. ***(Secretariat of the Pacific Community)***

OIA supports Marshall Islands education, medical initiatives

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Department of the Interior's Assistant Secretary for Insular Areas, Tony Babauta, has authorized two Technical Assistance grants for the Republic of the Marshall Islands: 1) $385,000 to the College of the Marshall Islands for a new Student Information System; and 2) $20,000 to create a partnership between the RMI and the Flying Doctors of America.

"I am pleased to be working closely with President Loeak and his new administration, identifying service gaps which will improve capacity for youth and increase the delivery of healthcare," said Babauta. "The U.S. government continues to have serious dialogue with Pacific leaders to focus on our efforts in creating partnerships and supporting initiatives which will help spur development, create opportunity, and build capacity in the Freely Associated States.

Funding for the College of the Marshall Islands will support its acquisition of a new Student Information System. The new system will allow the college, as well as its stakeholders, to better understand the effectiveness of their programs and be able to measure student success and weakness. It will also provide the college an internal tool to measure its own efficiency as an organization, which will help guide its leadership's decision making, ensuring that all their work is focused on improving student performance and maintaining accreditation.

Funding to support a new partnership between the Marshall Islands and the Flying Doctors is an initiative strongly supported by President Loeak. This partnership is a unique opportunity to leverage scarce resources by coordinating healthcare professional expertise and initiating an exchange between the Marshall Islands and Flying Doctors that works to improve the quality of medical care provided to residents.

In March, Babauta convened a Pacific Island Leaders Addressing Compact Impact meeting; bringing together members of the Micronesian chief executives, the State of Hawaii, congressional representatives of Guam and the CNMI, as well as U.S Federal Interagency Government counterparts from the Department of State. The meeting focused on Compact impact and ways to support meaningful outcomes in both the FAS and affected jurisdictions. The award of these grants provide needed resources to improve health and education capacity in the RMI. Such action advances OIA's Compact Impact Initiative that serves to strengthen bilateral relationships and forge a collaborative way forward to address priority needs. ***(PR)***

Scientists, fishery managers mull US Pacific fisheries issues

HONOLULU—The Scientific and Statistical Committee that advises the Western Pacific Fishery Management Council convened last week in Honolulu to discuss management of federally managed fisheries in Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and the remote US Pacific Island areas.

The recommendations of the committee and other Council advisory bodies will be reviewed by the Council's Standing Committees today, June 25, at the Council office. The full Council will take action on the recommendations on June 26-28.

Recommendations by the Council are transmitted the US Secretary of Commerce for final approval. Among the key issues to be considered are the following:

■ **Options for Marianas purse seine area closure:** The Council will consider implementing a purse seine fishing prohibition for the U.S. exclusive economic zone waters around the islands of the Mariana Archipelago. The purpose of the closure is to prevent localized depletion of skipjack and yellowfin tuna stocks, catch competition between purse seine vessels and local longline and troll fishing vessels and impacts on bigeye tuna in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean. The proposed purse seine area closure would be the same boundaries used for managing longline fishing around the archipelago.

■ **US Pacific territory bigeye tuna and other highly migratory species catch limits:** In November 2011, Congress passed the fiscal year 2012 appropriations bill for the Department of Commerce that included provisions for American Samoa, Guam and CNMI to use, assign, allocate and manage catch limits of highly migratory fish stocks, or fishing effort limits, agreed to by the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission through arrangements with US vessels with Pelagic Fishery Ecosystem Plan permits. The legislation remains in effect until Dec. 31, 2012, or earlier if the Council transmits, and the Secretary of Commerce approves and implements, an amendment to the Pelagics FEP. The congressional legislation provides the U.S. territories a framework to manage HMS catch and effort limits as well as a simpler approach than the amendment to the Pelagic FEP that the Council was previously considering. The Council will consider modifying its existing recommendation to be aligned with the Congressional language or maintain its original amendment.

■ **2012-2013 Main Hawaiian Islands bottomfish annual catch limit.** The SSC has the responsibility of setting an acceptable biological catch (ABC) for the upcoming 2012-13 main Hawaiian Islands Deep 7 bottomfish fishing year. The ABC for the 2011-12 fishing year was set at 346,000 lbs. Because there is no new stock assessment for this fishery and no foreseeable new information, it is unlikely the SSC will recommend a different ABC. The Council is expected to endorse the SSC's recommendation as it sets the annual catch target for the fishery, taking into social, economic, environmental and management considerations.

■ **American Samoa longline and purse seine landing requirements.** The Council will present options for landing requirements that apply to US longline and purse seine vessels operating in the region as well how these options promote American Samoa community participation in these fisheries.

■ **Implementation of the incidental take statement in the 2012 biological opinion for Hawaii shallow-set longline fishery.** The National Marine Fisheries Service will provide an update on the rule-making that, if approved would increase the number of leatherback and loggerhead sea turtles authorized for take in the Hawaii shallow-set longlinge fishery for swordfish from 16 to 26 and from 17 to 34, respectively. The Council will consider whether the proposed rule is consistent with Amendment 18 to the Pelagics FEP.

Other major agenda items include Cooperative Research Priorities for the Marianas and Hawaii archipelago and the Pacific Pelagic fisheries, including tagging in the Hawaii bottomfish fishing restricted areas and mapping of critical fish habitats and shark tagging in the Marianas; the American Samoa Marine Conservation Plan providing details on uses for funds to be collected by the Secretary of Commerce under a Pacific Insular Area Fishery Agreement or from fines and penalties imposed from foreign fishing violations; and Hawaii Essential Fish Habitat and Habitat Areas of Particular Concern recommendations. For full agendas and more details, go to www.wpcouncil.org/meetings.

As part of the Council meeting, a free Fishers Forum on Managing for Recovery of the North Pacific Humpback Whale will be open to fishermen and the general public 6pm to 9pm, Wednesday, June 27, at Harbor View Center at Pier 38, above Nico's restaurant. Fishermen, ocean users and other members of the public are invited to enjoy informational booths, family activities, refreshments and prizes and join in the discussion about the remarkable recovery of this species and the challenges of having more than 21,000 humpback whales in the North Pacific, half of which come to Hawaii to winter.

The Western Pacific Fishery Management Council was established by Congress to manage fisheries in offshore waters around Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam, CNMI and the US Pacific remote island areas. For more information or the agendas, visit www.wpcouncil.org or email info.wpcouncil@noaa.gov; phone (808) 522-8220, or fax (808) 522-8226. ***(WESPAC)***

Business

Hawaii island depends on rich owner

By JENNIFER SINCO KELLEHER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

HONOLULU (AP)—The 3,200 people living on a rural Hawaiian island that will soon be purchased by billionaire Oracle Corp. CEO Larry Ellison have a laundry list of what they'd like to see him provide.

Working-class residents on Lanai want stable jobs. Affordable housing. No onerous restrictions on hunting or fishing. A return to agriculture. Improved transportation to Maui, Oahu and other islands given an airport with limited flights. Even simple things like the reopening of the community pool. They hope he's willing to sit down, listen to their concerns and be sensitive to the unique culture of Hawaii.

Ellison

But on Lanai, an island paradise unscathed by urban annoyances like traffic lights, residents' lives are largely dependent on whoever owns 98 percent of the island's 141 square miles. Without tourism, the economic engine that's driven the island under its current billionaire owner, the "pineapple island" doesn't have much.

"It's not an island with a lot of resources and the kind of infrastructure you need," said Bill Medeiros, assigned to oversee Lanai as executive assistant to the mayor of Maui County, of which Lanai is part. "At one time, almost the whole island was pineapple."

Lanai residents are fully aware, Medeiros said, that their wants ultimately have little bearing on the reality of living on an island whose future rests with the whims of an owner with deep pockets willing to bear a financial loss.

That owner is soon to be Ellison, an adventurous billionaire who needs the island a whole lot less than the people of Lanai need him.

The constant fear is what happens if the owner doesn't renew leases on rented homes, closes a hotel or decides he's had enough and sells, community leaders say.

"It's always, `What happens if he sells us? How scary,'" said Kepa Maly, executive director of the Lanai Culture & Heritage Center.

It would be nice if Ellison, known for being a visionary, can find a way for Lanai to sustain itself in a way that honors its roots, Maly said. But he shouldn't expect to turn a profit.

"The history of Lanai since western contact is littered with the graves of unsuccessful western business interests," he said. "I can't believe someone buying the island today would be able to get richer off of it."

Current billionaire owner David Murdock, who led a shift from the island's pineapple industry to luxury resort and home development, had been losing $20 million to $30 million a year, the Honolulu Star-Advertiser previously reported.

Ellison has yet to fully reveal his plans for Lanai but his representatives have assured the state senator who represents the island that the high-tech CEO and world-renowned sailor has no plans for radical changes and will be sensitive to the culture of the island.

Still the reality, Maly noted, "is clearly someone has to earn some money. How do we do that?"

And Ellison didn't become the world's sixth richest billionaire without some shrewd business sense.

"He told me once that he's like anybody else when he spends his money on something, he doesn't want to get taken," said Mike Wilson, managing editor of the Tampa Bay Times who authored, "The Difference Between God and Larry Ellison: God Doesn't Think He's Larry Ellison."

But for a pet project like buying an island, "I'm sure his first concern is not that he'll lose money," Wilson said. "I don't think he's unconscious of the natural beauty of the place or anywhere else."

The island's charm means residents travel via $50-round trip ferry ride to neighboring Maui to shop at stores like Costco or Wal-Mart. There may be only 30 miles of paved roads, but a gallon of gasoline at the lone gas station on Friday was about $5.75, compared to Honolulu's average of $4.20 and the U.S. national average of $3.45. Residents supplement the food on their family's table by fishing and hunting—mostly deer and some wild pig. There's one school and one hospital. For more than routine medical care, residents must fly to Honolulu, a 25-minute plane ride away.

Lanai's small size has led to a tight-knight community, built as a walking community around Lanai City's park, where residents strive for a simple life.

"For an island that may have been host to many well-known people, it's still an island that allows a lot of courtesy and privacy," said seventh-generation Lanaian Sol Kahoohalahala.

As the sale gets closer to being a done deal, Maui Mayor Alan Arakawa is pondering how Ellison might "completely alter the economic structure of the island."

Playing off Ellison's high-tech prowess Maly has a novel idea: "Software development. How about Lanai becoming engaged in computer sciences?"

Where did you spend your time online in May? Nielsen knows

By MICHELLE MALTAIS
LOS ANGELES TIMES

LOS ANGELES—Did you know that you probably spent more than a full day online in May? And you were probably spending a good portion of that time somewhere on Google, checking out a news site or watching hours and hours of YouTube videos.

On average, the nearly 212 million Americans online last month spent about 29 hours browsing the Web, according to Nielsen. An average of just under six hours of that time was spent watching videos—more than 26 billion videos.

The brand with the biggest draw was Google, pulling in 173 million unique visitors. That was nearly 20 million more than the next site—Facebook, with 152 million. And video-wise, YouTube had the highest number of both visitors and video streams (a whopping 16.5 billion).

When folks weren't hanging out on YouTube—and more than 136 million did—they were looking for what was happening in the world, Nielsen said. More than half of active Webizens hit up news sites, with Yahoo-ABC News pulling the most visits, 62 million. It was followed by CNN Digital Network, with 39.5 million.

However, according to Nielsen, CNN, which ranked a distant second as a brand, was significantly "stickier," keeping its visitors engaged for an average of 35 minutes and clicking an average of 42 pages each. And that logged CNN the most page views, at 1.6 billion.

And, of course, we have a horse in that race. Tribune Newspapers, which includes Los Angeles Times, ranked seventh, between the Huffington Post (No. 6) and the Fox Network Digital Network (No. 8).

Fox, though eighth in audience, actually ranked second for the amount of time spent on the site, with an average of 34 minutes.

Nation

Sandusky lawyers raise appeal issue

By MARK SCOLFORO and GENARO C. ARMAS
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BELLEFONTE, Pa. (AP)—Jerry Sandusky's lawyers said Saturday they tried to quit at the start of jury selection in his child sex abuse trial because they weren't given enough time to prepare, raising an argument on the trial's speed that could become the thrust of an appeal.

And one of the jurors who convicted Sandusky of 45 child sex abuse counts said Saturday he was swayed by the "very convincing" testimony of eight accusers who said the retired Penn State assistant football coach molested them for years.

"It's hard to judge character on the stand, because you don't know these kids," juror Joshua Harper told NBC's "Today" show. "But most were very credible—I would say all."

A day after Sandusky's conviction, his lawyers disclosed they felt too unprepared to adequately defend him because of how quickly the case was brought to trial. Experts have said the seven months between Sandusky's November arrest and trial was fast-paced by Pennsylvania standards.

"We told the trial court, the Superior Court and the Supreme Court we were not prepared to proceed to trial in June due to numerous issues, and we asked to withdraw from the case for those reasons," attorney Joe Amendola told The Associated Press.

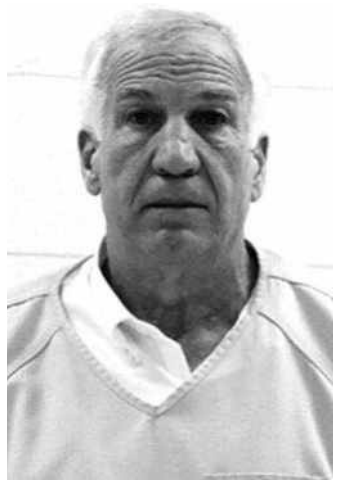
The issues included a scheduling conflict with a defense team member and the need to read a cache of documents produced by a lengthy grand jury investigation. Judge John Cleland denied their request.

The attorneys raised other issues that could be part of the future appeal, saying a mistrial was sought and denied over a repetition at trial of a brief part of a November interview Sandusky had with NBC's Bob Costas.

Jurors in the two-week trial convicted Sandusky of 45 of the 48 counts against him, meaning Sandusky, 68, likely will die in prison.

Harper said the accusers who testified one by one of horrific abuse at Sandusky's hands were each believable, "but then also the fact that we saw this corroborating story between all of them. It was very convincing."

Then Sandusky's impassive face when the verdict was read was confirmation for the jury, he said.


AP
In this booking photo released early Saturday morning June 23, 2012 by the Centre County Correctional Facility in Bellefonte, Pa., former Penn State University assistant football coach Jerry Sandusky is shown.

"I looked at him during the reading of the verdict and just the look on his face. No real emotion," he said, "because he knew it was true."

Harper said jurors had some issues with the testimony of Mike McQueary, a then-assistant who said he saw Sandusky assaulting a boy in the Penn State showers in 2001; jurors acquitted Sandusky on one count relating to the incident.

The case is poised to move to an investigation of university officials' role in reporting the charges; two ex-school administrators face trial on charges they didn't properly report McQueary's account of the suspected abuse in 2001.

Almost immediately after the verdict, Penn State President Rodney Erickson signaled an openness to quickly settle potential civil lawsuits arising from the convictions, saying the school "wants to provide a forum where the university can privately, expeditiously and fairly address the victims' concerns and compensate them for claims."

The university recently reported a $1.8 billion endowment. But both sides have reasons not to want to go to court, said Jason Kutulakis, a Harrisburg-area lawyer who specializes in child welfare and juvenile law. Victims are reluctant to get on the stand and have their credibility attacked, he said.

But "Penn State's got so much egg on their face, they probably just want to make it all go away," he said.

For now, the school is facing one lawsuit from an accuser, Travis Weaver, who was not among those represented in the criminal case against Sandusky.

Lawyers for McQueary, who testified against Sandusky, have signaled their intent to sue, along with a lawyer for one accuser, so-called Victim 5.

Jeff Anderson, who represents Weaver, said that he represents more victims of Sandusky's and that he will ask the court to allow him to begin seeking information from Penn State in Weaver's case.

The next step is to determine the extent of Penn State's culpability, lawyers say. In part, that means finding out who in the university's upper ranks knew Sandusky was preying on boys and could have stopped it.

The former Penn State officials facing charges, athletic director Tim Curley and retired vice president Gary Schultz, are charged with lying to a grand jury about what they knew of a 2001 incident in which McQueary said he saw Sandusky assaulting a boy in a football team shower.

A separate investigation by ex-FBI director Louis Freeh, who was hired by Penn State's board of trustees to investigate the university's handling of the Sandusky allegations, is due later this summer.

Hall of Fame coach Joe Paterno was fired for a failure of leadership for not going to the police after McQueary told him about that incident. The scandal also caused the departure of university president Graham Spanier.

Philadelphia-based lawyer Fortunato Perri Jr., who followed the trial, said the jury's dismissal of the charge involving the 2001 shower incident could help Curley and Schultz' defense.

"You've now had a jury kind of preview your case with respect to the credibility of McQueary, and they didn't believe him," Perri said. "Who knows if the next jury would believe him or not believe him?"

But the administrators' attorneys would probably be precluded from introducing the acquittal evidence at the separate trial, Perri said.

Sandusky's sentencing is expected to occur in about three months; an exact date hasn't been set. Because of the severity of the charges and mandatory minimum sentences, he faces an effective life sentence.

Until his next court date, Sandusky is one of 272 inmates at the Centre County Correctional Facility, seven miles from the Penn State campus. He was kept under watch overnight and is allowed access to some personal items including a prayer book, and can get visits from family, friends and attorneys.

Rominger said he planned to visit him on Sunday.

Asia

Learning to hate US starts early in N. Korea

By JEAN H. LEE
ASSOCIATED PRESS

AP

In this June 1, 2012 file photo, a child points a toy gun at a painting of a U.S. soldier during a game for children on the grounds of Kyongsang Kindergarten in Pyongyang, North Korea as the country marked International Children's Day.

PYONGYANG, North Korea (AP)—A framed poster on the wall of a kindergarten classroom shows bright-eyed children brandishing rifles and bayonets as they attack a hapless American soldier, his face bandaged and blood spurting from his mouth.

"We love playing military games knocking down the American bastards," reads the slogan printed across the top. Another poster depicts an American with a noose around his neck. "Let's wipe out the U.S. imperialists," it instructs.

For North Koreans, the systematic indoctrination of anti-Americanism starts as early as kindergarten and is as much a part of the curriculum as learning to count.

Toy pistols, rifles and tanks sit lined up in neat rows on shelves. The school principal pulls out a dummy of an American soldier with a beaked nose and straw-colored hair and explains that the students beat him with batons or pelt him with stones—a favorite schoolyard game, she says.

For a moment, she is sheepish as she takes three journalists from The Associated Press, including an American, past the anti-U.S. posters. But Yun Song Sil is not shy about the message.

"Our children learn from an early age about the American bastards," she says, tossing off a phrase so common here that it is considered an acceptable way to refer to Americans.

North Korean students learn that their country has had two main enemies: the Japanese, who colonized Korea from 1910 to 1945, and the U.S., which fought against North Korea during the 1950-53 Korean War.

They are told that North Korea's defense against outside forces—particularly the U.S., which has more than 28,000 soldiers stationed in South Korea—remains the backbone of the country's foreign policy.

And they are bred to seek revenge, even as their government professes to want peace with the United States.

"They tell their people there can be no reconciliation with the United States," says American scholar Brian Myers, who dissected North Korean propaganda in his 2010 book "The Cleanest Race: How North Koreans See Themselves and Why It Matters." "They make it very clear to the masses that this hate will last forever."

In recent years, state propaganda has shifted away from the virulent anti-American slogans of the past and has instead emphasized building up the economy. On the streets of Pyongyang, anti-American posters have largely given way to images of soldiers in helmets and workers in factories.

But the posters and curricula at kindergartens across North Korea remain unchanged. One glimpse inside a school, and it's clear that despite U.S.-North Korean diplomacy behind closed doors, 4-year-olds are still being taught that the "Yankee imperialists" are North Korea's worst enemy.

At the Kaeson Kindergarten in central Pyongyang, one of several schools visited by the AP, U.S. soldiers are depicted as cruel, ghoulish barbarians with big noses and fiendish eyes. Teeth bared, they brand prisoners with hot irons, set wild dogs on women and wrench out a girl's teeth with pliers. One drawing shows an American soldier crushing a girl with his boot, blood pouring from her mouth, her eyes wild with fear and pain.

"The American imperialists and Japanese militarism are the sworn enemies of the North Korean people," reads a quote from late leader Kim Jong Il affixed to the top of one wall in a large room devoted to anti-U.S. education.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Philippines opens school on disputed island

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—A Philippine official says he has opened a small kindergarten school on a South China Sea island that is also claimed by five other countries. Mayor Eugenio Bito-onon said Sunday that his aim was to help the 37-hectare (91-acre) island's civilian community and not to antagonize rival claimant countries. The school was inaugurated without fanfare on June 15 with five students, their parents and a teacher. A Philippine flag fluttered in the breeze in the schoolyard. The Philippines calls the island Pag-asa—or "hope" in Tagalog. It is guarded by Filipino troops. It is part of the Spratlys archipelago. China, Taiwan, Brunei, Malaysia and Vietnam also claim the islands.

Chinese spacecraft docks with orbiting module

BEIJING (AP)—A Chinese spacecraft carrying three astronauts carried out a manual docking with an orbiting module on Sunday, a first for the country as it strives to match American and Russian exploits in space. The Shenzhou 9 capsule completed the maneuver with the Tiangong 1 module shortly before 1 p.m. (0500 GMT). The docking was shown live on national television. It follows a docking last week that was carried out by remote control from a ground base in China. The Chinese astronauts have been living and working in the module for the past week as part of preparations for manning a permanent space station. They returned to the Shenzhou 9 capsule early Sunday and disconnected in preparation for the manual re-connection.

Philippines arrests militant in American beheading

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine police have arrested a militant suspected of involvement in the beheading of an American tourist by the al-Qaida-linked Abu Sayyaf group 11 years ago. National police investigation chief Samuel Pagdilao says Alawie Pasihul was arrested Thursday in southern Zamboanga city near Basilan island where American Guillermo Sobero, two other Americans and 17 Filipinos were taken after they were abducted in May 2001 from a resort. Militants beheaded Sobero. One of the Americans was killed during a military rescue. Pagdilao said Saturday that Pasihul allegedly also was involved in a mass kidnapping of students and teachers in Basilan.

World

Turkey threatens action vs Syria

SOURCE: ESRI AP

ANKARA, Turkey (AP)—Syria said Saturday it shot down a Turkish reconnaissance plane because the plane entered its airspace, insisting it was "not an attack" as both sides desperately tried to de-escalate the episode before it exploded into a regional conflagration.

Turkey threatened to retaliate but did not say what action it would take as it searched for the aircraft's two missing pilots.

The downed plane heightened tensions between two countries that had been allies before Syria's 15-month violent uprising, and signaled that the violence gripping Syria is increasingly bleeding outside its borders. Germany and Iraq were among the countries urging restraint in the region.

Syria and neighboring Turkey had cultivated close ties before the Syrian revolt began in March 2011, but since then Turkey has become one of the strongest critics of Syria's regime. Turkey hosts civilian and military Syrian opposition groups, including hundreds of army defectors who are affiliated with the Free Syrian Army and collect food and other supplies to deliver to comrades on smuggling routes.

Turkish authorities also suspect Damascus, which was collaborating with Turkey in its fight against autonomy-seeking Kurdish rebels, is now turning a blind eye to Syria-based Kurdish fighters who belong to the Kurdistan Workers' Party, or PKK, considered a terrorist organization in the U.S. and Europe.

The plane, an unarmed F-4, went down in the Mediterranean Sea about eight miles (13 kilometers) from the Syrian town of Latakia, Turkey said. Syria claimed the jet violated its air space over territorial waters, penetrating about 1 kilometer (0.62 mile). It said Syrian forces only realized it was a Turkish jet after firing at it.

In a telephone interview with Turkish TV news channel A Haber on Saturday, Syrian Foreign Ministry spokesman Jihad Makdissi said the downing was "not an attack."

"An unidentified object entered our air space and unfortunately as a result it was brought down. It was understood only later that it was a Turkish plane," A Haber quoted Makdissi in a translation of the interview. "There was no hostile act against Turkey whatsoever. It was just an act of defense for our sovereignty."

Turkish President Abdullah Gul conceded the plane may have unintentionally crossed into Syrian airspace, but said such an act was "routine" for jets to unintentionally cross borders for short periods. The government has not described the plane's specific mission.

Gul said his government was still investigating what happened, but "no one should have any doubt that whatever (action) is necessary will be taken."

Egypt to announce election results Sunday

CAIRO (AP)—Egypt will release results from disputed presidential elections Sunday, the country's top elections commission official said—an announcement that will put an end to nerve-wracking uncertainty about who is the official winner, but promises no resolution to the power struggles between Islamists, the military and other factions.

A gathering of secular-leaning politicians criticized on Saturday what they said was U.S. meddling on behalf of the Muslim Brotherhood, which has claimed victory. Other secularists have stood behind the Islamist group, calling it the likely legitimate winner and the best hope in the current circumstances against continued military domination of the country.

The dispute highlights how the country has been split into deeply polarized camps since the June 16-17 runoff vote between the Muslim Brotherhood's candidate Mohammed Morsi and ousted leader Hosni Mubarak's last prime minister Ahmed Shafiq, whose campaign also says he has won by a narrow margin.

Many Egyptians have rallied behind Morsi as a chance to finally rid the country of the old Mubarak regime, while others support Shafiq as the best bet to counter Islamists and restore order after a year of protests, economic hardship, and fear about crime and continued instability.

But there is little hope that the results will produce an end to 16 months of political turmoil. A Morsi victory will likely see the new civilian government fight for its authority against a military that has ensured that its powers persist past the transition. A Shafiq victory will be seen by large sections of the public as illegitimate, as he is perceived as the favored candidate of the military rulers that appointed the election commission.

The commission postponed official results that had been scheduled to be announced on

Climate activists scale gates of Buckingham Palace

LONDON (AP)—Four climate change activists scaled gates at Queen Elizabeth II's Buckingham Palace home on Saturday and locked themselves to railings in a protest demanding more urgent action to cut greenhouse gas emissions.

The group, from the Climate Siren environmentalist movement, wore T-shirts with the slogan "Climate emergency. 10 percent annual emission cuts" and chanted through a loud hailer.

London's Metropolitan Police said the four had climbed up a gate at the front of the palace and secured themselves to it, sitting with their legs through the railings.

The protesters unfurled a banner quoting a 2008 speech by Prince Charles, the queen's son and heir, warning over a lack of progress on tacking climate change. It read: "'The doomsday clock of climate change is ticking ever faster towards midnight."

In a letter to the queen posted to the group's website, the activists said they were carrying out their protest in the hope of drawing attention to stalled progress on environmental issues.

"It is time that you and all public figures with influence followed the example of your son by speaking up loudly ... about the escalating threat of catastrophic climate change," the group said.

About 100 people stood at the scene, watching the protest.

Siobhan Grimes, a 24-year-old from east London, said she agreed that there was a need for more urgency on green issues.

Focus

Elder fraud: One couple's losses and hard lessons

By ALLEN G. BREED
AP NATIONAL WRITER

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP)—With their elderly parents seated across the octagonal oak table, Donna and Jim Parker were back in the kitchen they knew so well—the hutch along one wall crammed with plates, bells and salt-and-pepper shakers picked up during family trips; at the table's corner, the spindly wooden high chair where a 7-year-old Jim had tearfully confessed to setting a neighbor's woods ablaze.

It was Christmastime, but this was no holiday gathering. Now, it was the parents who were in deep trouble, and this was an intervention.

For the past year, Charles and Miriam Parker, both 81, had been in the thrall of an international sweepstakes scam. The retired educators, with a half-dozen college degrees between them, had lost tens of thousands of dollars.

But money wasn't just leaving the Parker house. Strangely, large sums were now coming in, too.

Their four children were worried, but had been powerless to open their parents' eyes. Maybe, Donna thought, they'd listen to people with badges.

And so, joining them at the family table that late-December day in 2005 were Special Agent Joan Fleming of the FBI and David Evers, an investigator from the North Carolina attorney general's telemarketing fraud unit.

The home was littered with sweepstakes mailers and "claim" forms, the cupboards bare of just about everything but canned soup, bread and crackers. Charles Parker acknowledged that he'd lost a lot of money, but expressed confidence that he and his wife would eventually succeed if they just kept "investing."

Evers and Fleming showed the couple a video of other elderly scam victims, then played a taped interview of a former con man describing how he operated. Charles was alarmed by what he was seeing and hearing, but his wife seemed to be barely paying attention.

With the couple's permission, Evers installed a "mooch line" on the kitchen phone so they could capture incoming calls. The Parkers pledged their cooperation.

After gathering up some of the mailings for evidence, the officers left, encouraged by what seemed a few hours well spent.

But in the coming months and years, things would only get worse for the Parker family—much worse.

■■■■

The Parkers were hardly unsophisticated people, the type to be easily fooled.

Born in 1924, Charles Alexander Parker and Miriam Wilkinson were high school sweethearts back in Pitman, N.J. After Charles served in the Navy in World War II, they married and embarked on a life of learning and teaching.

Charles earned a doctorate in speech communications, and Miriam received a pair of master's degrees, one in special education. Along the way, Miriam gave birth to four children: Donna, Jim, Linda and Carole.

After other teaching stints, Charles Parker took a position in the English department at North Carolina State in Raleigh, from which he would eventually retire. In 1966, the couple built a split-level home, later converting the garage into a classroom for Miriam's special-needs pupils.

Through hard work and thrift, the Parkers were able to send all four children to college and pay off their home. Between their savings and Charles' pension, they were looking at a comfortable retirement.

Then the conman entered their lives.

■■■■

Older Americans lose $2.9 billion a year to fraud, according to a study last year by the National Committee for the Prevention of Elder Abuse and the Center for Gerontology at Virginia Tech. Most victims are between 80 and 89, and most are women.

Using the latest technologies, "these criminals need not defraud their victims face-to-face," David Kirkman and Virginia H. Templeton wrote in a 2007 article for the journal Alzheimer's Care Today. From far away, "they can identify vulnerable seniors, contact them, and induce them to part with their savings."

A slowing down of brain function comes with normal aging, they noted. The elderly are susceptible to errors in judgment, particularly in situations where a snap decision is required—such as during a telemarketing call.

"Experience teaches us that those with mild dementia tend to be the most vulnerable," wrote Kirkman, an assistant attorney general in North Carolina, and Templeton, a gerontologist.

The Mayo Clinic defines "mild cognitive impairment" as an "intermediate stage between the expected cognitive decline of normal aging and the more pronounced decline of dementia."

The basis for a diagnosis in many cases: falling victim to repeated scams.

AP

In this Thursday, April 19, 2012 photo, Miriam Parker and her daughter Donna stand in the dining room of her Raleigh, N.C., home. Donna Parker and her siblings struggled for nearly seven years to extricate her parents from the clutches of an international sweepstakes scam.

'As I look back on it, it was a good bit of stupidity on my part.'

■■■■

No one can say exactly how the trouble began in the Parkers' case.

They might have made a small donation to some charity or responded to a sweepstakes letter they got in the mail. Somehow, the couple ended up on what people in the industry call the "sucker list."

Then the scammers proceeded to "reload" them.

You've won this multimillion-dollar lottery, they'd say. All you need to do is send us money to cover taxes, and we'll send you your prize.

So on Dec. 8, 2004, Miriam Parker—then 80—drove herself to the Wal-Mart down the road to send a MoneyGram to Montreal, Quebec.

Isolation from absent children is often a hallmark in cases like this. But that wasn't so with the Parkers. Sure, Jim had settled in Ohio, and Carole was living in Florida. But Linda and Donna were both just down the road in Cary.

A busy real estate agent and teacher, Donna—the eldest—popped in as often as she could. But she'd always appreciated her parents for not trying to tell her and her siblings how to live their lives, and she did her best to return the courtesy.

In her parents' living room is a plaque that reads, "Mom's 10 Commandments for a Happy Household." No. 6: "If it rings, answer it."

And so, over a series of calls, Howard Clark—a man with a warm voice who called her "dear" and "sweetheart"—had learned enough personal information about Miriam to convince her that he was the family's ticket to riches.

Other MoneyGrams followed. Then, on Jan. 12, 2005, Miriam sent a Federal Express package to a "Mr. Stewart" on Papineau Street in Montreal. Inside, as instructed, was a magazine with $12,550 in cash sandwiched between its pages.

By May 2005, the Parkers had blown through their savings. They had tapped into their home equity line and had maxed out several credit cards. They were running out of things to give.

Unwittingly, their children had contributed to the problem. When Miriam asked Donna for a $7,000 loan, the daughter thought little of it.

Through most of their marriage, Charles Parker had taken care of the couple's finances. But in 1989, shortly after his retirement, he suffered a heart attack. That was followed by colon cancer. As her husband's health declined, Miriam stepped to the fore.

Faced with mounting debt—and clinging to assurances that a big payday was coming—she was determined to right their financial ship.

That's when she became a "money mule."

■■■■

Howard told Miriam that she'd been "hired" by the Canadian sweepstakes company.

On May 5, 2005, a package from Bloomingdale, N.J., containing $8,275 in cash arrived at the Parkers' home. Others followed and in about a week, Miriam Parker would receive and repackage $60,000 in cash for delivery to Mr. Stewart.

Sometimes, there would be two stacks of bills tucked into magazines. The smaller pile was Miriam Parker's "commission."

Howard said she wasn't to tell her children about their dealings. But the kids had already become alarmed by changes in their mother's behavior.

During visits, Jim noticed that she would race him to the phone, then prevent him from listening to the conversations.

And then there was the need for loans. When Donna asked what for, her parents were evasive.

When the children finally persuaded their mother to get a credit report, the news was jaw-dropping. Their thrifty parents were nearly $200,000 in debt.

Miriam Parker insisted that their ship was about to come in, and that she would soon repay the loans. So Donna gave her a deadline.

In an email to the other siblings, she explained: "I told her that if the money was not there by Wednesday, July 6, the family would be forced to do things we do not look forward to."

The money, of course, did not come. It was time to get authorities involved.

Donna went to the state Attorney General's Elder Fraud Unit. Around that same time, she received a call from the FBI—her parents had popped up on their radar. It became apparent to authorities that the Parkers weren't truly willing participants in the scam. So they staged the December family intervention.

Donna allowed herself to hope that the people who'd ripped off her parents would be caught—and that they might even get some of their money back.

But a frantic phone call a couple of weeks later dashed those hopes.

"They're going to turn the gas off," her mother told her on a day with temperatures forecast to plunge into the 20s.

Eventually, the children were having to buy their parents' groceries.

Attorneys Donna contacted could offer no help—the elder Parkers hadn't been deemed incompetent, and it was their money.

In April 2006, Jim Parker and his wife Susan came to town for Donna's wedding. They were sitting in his parents' kitchen when the doorbell rang.

The FedEx driver handed Jim a crinkly envelope. He knew without opening it what was inside and turned it over to Kirkman, manager of the Elder Fraud Prevention Project in the AG's office.

When authorities opened the envelope, they found an old issue of Martha Stewart Living magazine. It contained $5,725 in cash from a Visalia, Calif., widow.

Kirkman called a contact at Federal Express, who ordered a stop on deliveries and pickups at the Parker home.

But the crooks just switched to United Parcel Service.

And now, in addition to money, they were delivering and picking up car tires and custom rims, and laptop computers worth thousands of dollars—all purchased by other elderly victims.

That's when state and federal authorities reached out to their counterparts north of the border.

■■■■

On Aug. 2, 2006, officers of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and Surete du Quebec paid a visit to Dave Stewart.

The Jamaican native ac-

See ELDER on Next Page

Health & Fitness

The journey toward weight loss begins with a single step

By CASSANDRA SPRATLING
DETROIT FREE PRESS

DETROIT—Loretta Moore looked at herself in the mirror one morning and didn't like what she saw.

"I was ridiculously overweight," Moore said. "I couldn't get into most of my clothes anymore."

Standing 5-feet-4, Moore weighed 252 pounds.

That image was all it took for Moore, 56, of Detroit to start walking regularly.

It took a funeral for Jodi Davis.

At the funeral of a relative, she watched as the woman's son cried at his mother's casket. The woman who had died was in her early 40s.

"I thought that could be me" in the casket, said Davis, 45, of Coloma in western Michigan. Davis, too, was extremely obese. She is 5-feet-6 and weighed 300 pounds.

Although they live in different parts of the state, Moore and Davis took similar steps to get their weight and health under control.

They began walking regularly and eliminated a lot of sugary and high-fat foods from their diets.

Moore shed 69 pounds in the past two years and is working toward losing more. And she no longer takes medications to control her once-high blood pressure.

After dropping 162 pounds over 16 months, Davis has maintained her weight for about 10 years. She became a healthy living advocate for Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and is featured on the cover of the recently released "The Joy Fit Club: Cookbook, Diet Plan & Inspiration" (Wiley, $27.99) by Joy Bauer, a nutrition expert on NBC's "Today" show.

Moore and Davis are proof that getting fit starts by taking it one step at a time.

WILLIAM ARCHIE/DETROIT FREE PRESS/MCT
◀ Loretta Moore walks along the Detroit Riverfront at William G. Milliken State Park and Harbor in Detroit, Michigan, on Monday, June 11, 2012. Moore lost 62 pounds over a 2-year period by walking and changing her eating habits.

Health and fitness experts say that walking is one of the best ways to improve your health—and that when the weather is warm, it's a great time to get started.

"There are clear physical, emotional and social benefits of walking," said Victor Katch, an avid walker and University of Michigan movement science professor.

Walking reduces depression and wards off or slows the progression of chronic diseases such as diabetes and heart disease, Katch said. And one of the best things about walking as a major form of exercise is that almost everyone can do it.

"Walking is easy to do. It engages most of the major muscles of the body. It's good for balance and internal functioning," he said.

And, unlike some exercises, you don't have to go anywhere special to do it, said Katch, who walks daily—sometimes twice or three times on a really good day. "I'm a mover," he said. "I'd like to say I'm a mover and a shaker, but really, I'm just a mover."

Katch and other walking advocates say two of the best ways to stick to a regimen is to have a partner or group, to walk in places that inspire and encourage you and to set a goal—such as walking a 5K or a half marathon.

The scenery, improved health and group support are among the attractions for the Detroit River Walkers—a group of almost 1,000 people 60 and older who walk Tuesday and Thursday mornings on the Detroit RiverWalk in a program sponsored by Detroit Receiving Hospital.

"My strength and endurance have improved," said Edythe Hayden Friley, 65, who has been walking with the River Walkers for five years. "And it's good for me emotionally. You hear so much bad stuff about the city. But here, there's such peace, tranquility and beauty along the water. It just makes you feel good."

The Detroit RiverWalk is one of Moore's favorite places to go for a stroll, too. She walks along the riverfront at least three times a week. Occasionally, they veer off along the nearby Dequindre Cut Greenway.

"We started out just doing a few miles, but sometimes we get in about 7 miles," says Moore, a clinical care manager for a mental health facility in Wixom.

"I can wear all my clothes again," she says. "I love the new me."

Davis walks every day for at least 1 ½ miles along Lake Michigan near her home.

Both women suggest walking at a brisk pace; as they lost weight, they were able to walk faster.

And Davis discovered other benefits besides weight loss.

"I have much more energy," she said. "My thoughts are clearer and I sleep better. Whenever I'm feeling stressed, I get outside and stomp it off."

ON THE NET

- For walking trails: www.traillink.com
- To find other walkers in your area: http://walkers.meetup.com
- To find walks, both competitive and noncompetitive, and charity events: www.active.com

ELDER

From Page 17

knowledged accepting numerous packages from the American lady on behalf of a man whom he knew as "Roger." Stewart said he was paid $100 per package.

Professing ignorance of any illegal activity, Stewart agreed to cooperate.

Howard, meanwhile, gave Miriam a new address to which she should forward items.

On Aug. 17, 2006, laptops valued at more than $7,200 arrived from Hayward, Calif. She sent them to a "Joseph Reid" in the Montreal borough of Verdun. Parcels kept coming—from Texas and Massachusetts, South Carolina and Washington, Missouri and Maine.

In December 2006, the Parker kids persuaded their parents to grant Donna a limited power of attorney. A month later, she accompanied them to the credit union, where they took out a 30-year, $179,000 mortgage on their home.

■ ■ ■ ■

Miriam Parker had become a cog in Howard Clark's fraud machine. The FBI's Fleming decided to turn the tables on him.

On April 3, 2007, Miriam phoned him—this time with Fleming recording.

"Howard?"

"Yes, dear," he replied sweetly.

As the conversation went on, Howard grew testy about her failure to send her packages quickly. In one case, he noted, trucks had left a UPS office just before an important package arrived from her. Send everything next-day air, he demanded.

When she asked whether she should go back to her former shipper, Howard cut her off: "No, you can't never go there again."

When she suggested that the person at the store was just trying to save her some money, Howard told her that was not their concern and to do as instructed. "I'm giving you the money to pay for this."

Perhaps sensing he'd been too hard, he changed his tone.

"Not to say that YOU are making the mistake, but maybe they are," he said. "And we can't afford for you OR them to make the mistake."

But this time it was Howard who'd made the mistake.

The FBI determined the pitch calls were coming from Montreal, and Mounties soon had a real name for "Howard Clark"—he was Clayton Atkinson, who had 13 convictions for assault, theft and weapons possession.

On April 13, 2007, officers from the RCMP raided Atkinson's apartment and caught him with the "pitch phone" in his hand.

In Raleigh, a federal grand jury handed up a 35-count indictment against Atkinson and two co-defendants—Dave Stewart and Jamaal McKenzie, aka "Joseph Reid." The three were charged with one count each of conspiracy and interstate transportation of stolen property, seven counts of wire fraud and 26 counts of mail fraud.

■ ■ ■ ■

Even then, the trouble wasn't finished for the Parkers.

A Western Union office called Donna to say her parents had been in a couple of times in one day to wire money to "relatives" in Jamaica. They were clearly a marked couple.

Donna suggested it was time they let her take over their affairs.

"I am NOT mentally incompetent," her father protested.

But in May 2008, she filed a petition, and the court appointed local attorney David T. Watters guardian ad litem. The Parkers were "charming and personable," but hopelessly blind to their predicament, he wrote to the court.

Miriam was his main concern.

"Incredibly, Respondent fails to recognize that the family is the victim of a cruel financial scam," he wrote. "In two conversations, she indicated that she felt that she was working with a better quality of person at this time, and that these people would live up to their promise to provide money to Respondent."

The court appointed Donna Parker guardian of their estate.

■ ■ ■ ■

The criminal case ground slowly along, and last year Atkinson and Stewart pleaded guilty to one count each of conspiracy and mail fraud. (McKenzie is awaiting trial in Canada on an unrelated assault charge.)

When Atkinson appeared for sentencing at U.S. District Court in Raleigh on March 15, Miriam and Donna Parker were there. Charles Parker had died just a month earlier.

When the time came for victim impact statements, Donna Parker rose. She told Judge Terrence W. Boyle of having to take her parents to court, and of the lingering resentment it had caused.

"Scammers who prey on the elderly," she said, "are a blight on society."

Atkinson said he hoped to one day return to Canada to care for his aging father.

Seizing on this, the judge asked: "Can you imagine if somebody like you was doing this to your family? Could you imagine how shocked and outraged you'd be?"

"I can't sit in front of you and give an excuse for it," Atkinson said.

Boyle sentenced Atkinson to 12 1/2 years in prison, Stewart to 6 1/2. He also ordered them to pay $840,705 in restitution—$84,350 of it to Miriam Parker.

Responding to an interview request, Atkinson, 34, sent The Associated Press a three-page letter, cursing America's "corrupted justice system."

"my life is (expletive) ruined now," his unpunctuated reply said. "you think i care about the parkers"

■ ■ ■ ■

Miriam Parker kept her home, but she's lost most of her independence. Each month, Donna sends her a debit card with $500 on it, to pay for food and personal expenses. The daughter still screens the mail and pays the other bills.

On a recent day, the two sat at that familiar oak table, a Lazy Susan piled with junk mail between them.

Shuffling envelopes, Miriam told a reporter, "As I look back on it, it was a good bit of stupidity on my part." She said she knows better than to respond to junk mail now.

"I'd better not," she said, casting a glance at her daughter. "Or they would've been on my back, right?"

"Yes, ma'am," Donna replied.

"Which is all right," the mother said. "I have very smart kids."

"We had to be," her daughter said.

Personal Trainer
Warming up for hoops
Basketball can put heavy strain on your joints, muscles, heart and lungs, so be sure to warm up well; here's one technique:
Mikan exercises
Named for famous NBA center George Mikan (pronounced MIKE-an)
• Stand under basket with ball
• Shoot with right hand, taking off from left foot
• Catch ball as it comes through basket
• Immediately shoot with left hand, jumping from right foot
• Do 10 shots on each side
Long shots
1 Shoot from corner, 12 to 18 ft. (4 to 6 m) from basket, until you sink it
2 Move 3 ft. (1 m) back; shoot again until you make basket
3 Stay there, fake a shot, dribble right and shoot
4 Do the same thing again to the left
5 Fake a shot and drive in for a layup
6 Repeat drill at the top of the key (center) and in the other corner
Achilles tendon stretch
• Stand 12 in. (30 cm) from wall and put hands on it
• Step back 2 ft. (70 cm) with right foot and plant heel
• Flex left knee, push against wall and hold 30 seconds
• Do two sets on each side
© 2012 MCT
Source: Men's Health magazine
Graphic: Paul Trap

Life & Style

Today's movie princesses want more than a prince

By SANDY COHEN
AP ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

LOS ANGELES (AP)—For modern movie princesses, looking pretty and marrying a prince isn't enough.

Take "Mirror Mirror," where Snow White rescues her prince from an evil spell, or "Snow White and the Huntsman," where she becomes the hunter who avenges her father, marries none of her suitors and confidently runs her kingdom alone.

Further upending the Cinderella syndrome at a theater near you this weekend is Pixar's first ever female protagonist, the feisty Scottish Princess Merida of "Brave," who demands to forge her own independent future. She's also a far better shot than any of her would-be princes.

This new breed of big-screen princess not only reflects the independence—and athleticism—of young women today, but also Hollywood's increasing willingness to tell their stories.

The success of "Bridesmaids," ''The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo" and "The Hunger Games" showed us that audiences respond to well-drawn heroes, regardless of their gender, thus setting the stage for the classic literary convention of the princess to get a modern makeover.

"It is time for a new paradigm," said "Brave" producer Katherine Sarafian. "We've got an opportunity to make more characters that are relatable to modern girls" and audiences at large.

These empowered young princesses point to a gradual undoing of the so-called Cinderella syndrome or Cinderella complex, a theory developed in the early 1980s that says that, like Cinderella, many women seek something external—such as a rich and handsome prince—to change their lives and harbor a deep desire for dependence.

"It's not enough for women in the 21st century just to sit around and wait and be pretty," said Karen Sternheimer, a professor of sociology at the University of Southern California. "An empowered heroine encountering a challenge reflects the whole mythology of individualism. What's new is the means of achieving success. It used to be through beauty or marriage only. That hasn't gone away, but now it can also be through a skill or encountering a challenge that traditionally we've heard in stories about men."

In developing Princess Merida's story in "Brave," Pixar writers and artists thought more about character than gender, Sarafian said. They considered Merida's motivations, her frustrations and what makes her brave.

"If you focus on her being a girl, it's easy to get stuck in the trappings and rules and what a princess movie dictates," the producer said. "We strip out gender, princess, fairy tale and just focus on character."

Merida, voiced by Kelly Macdonald, is a headstrong teenager in 12th century Scotland with a mane of fiery red curls and a temperament to match. Though her mother lovingly prepares her for her royal role, the young princess is more interested in sword fighting, archery and riding her horse through the forest. When she blatantly defies an ancient tradition, she jeopardizes the future of her family and the kingdom.

"The story is not about the circumstances surrounding her," Sarafian said. "She makes the core decision that throws things off.... and it's not something else really saving her. Even though there is a little magic in the story, she is really the driving force."

And she does it all in a dress.

"Merida is not trying to pass herself off as anything other than a girl," the producer said. "She just wants to be her own person."

Rupert Sanders, the director of "Snow White and the Huntsman" released earlier this month, said the heroic journey of his princess (played by Kristen Stewart) makes her "almost the female Luke Skywalker."

The princesses' desire to shape their own lives rather than rush into marriage reflects a real trend of women marrying later or not at all, Sternheimer said. It's also a concept familiar to teenagers today, who often think about work and college before wedding bells.

But the stories of these empowered princesses still adhere to some less-than-empowered ideas. Princesses still have to be beautiful and attractive to men, and the stories' central conflicts still pit women against each other.

"They're empowered, but they still have a nemesis and she's female," Sternheimer said. "The battle between women is so central in pop culture. Any 'Real Housewives' franchise is a battle between women."

"I think it's a challenge to feminism," she continued. "Obviously feminism can't really work because women can't get along."

But at least at the movies this summer, everyone can see they can be powerful, independent princesses.

"My hope is that it's not just a moment; It's the new phase of things that become a new reality," the "Brave" producer said.

In this undated publicity image released by Disney/Pixar, Princess Merida, (voice by Kelly Macdonald), is shown in the 3D computer animated Disney/Pixar film, "Brave," releasing June 22, 2012 in North America. AP

Death & Funeral Announcement

†Jose Pangelinan Mafnas

Lovingly known as "Cheling"

Born to Life on October 1, 1943
Was called to Eternal Life on June 15, 2012 in California.

In his new life he now joins his:
Fathers: *†Juan Rios Mafnas*
†Jose Aguon Concepcion
Brother: *† Jesus Pangelinan Mafnas*

His memories will forever live in the hearts of his:
Wife: *Liberty Legaspi Mafnas*
Mother: *Victoria Pangelinan Concepcion*
Parents-in-Law: *Luciano & Maria Legaspi*

Children/Spouses and Grandchildren:
Thelma Tina Mafnas Flores & George III (Jayvan, Poima, Shaylene)
Eric John Tudela Mafnas & Velma (Kiara, Marian, Juana, Eric John (Jr.), Tahani, Jose, Michael)
Marian May Mafnas Guerrero & Anthony (Britton)
Frankie Joe Tudela Mafnas (Terrence, Kaela and Journey)
Joely Ann Mafnas
Eizel Charm Legaspi Mafnas
Jose Legaspi Mafnas, Jr.
Kina Legaspi Mafnas

Brother, Sisters and In-Laws:
Susana T. Mafnas &†Jesus, Maria Pangelinan Mafnas, Theresita Pangelinan Mafnas, Antonia Mafnas Apatang & David, Antonio Pangelinan Mafnas & Cynthia, Malou Smith, Nilo Legaspi, Ellen Legaspi, Danny Legaspi, Gary Legaspi, Arlene Delos Reyes, Marsha Legaspi

He is additionally survived by numerous uncles, aunts, cousins, nieces, nephews and friends.

Daily Mass of Intentions is being celebrated at 6:00 pm, San Antonio Church.

On Wednesday, June 27, 2012, our Beloved Jose's remains will arrive at 12:50 am at the Francisco C. Ada International Airport and will immediately be escorted to the Borja's Funeral Home followed by the Holy Rosary.

On Saturday, June 30, 2012, our Beloved Jose's remains will be taken from Borja's Funeral Home at 7:30 am to San Antonio Church. Responso Services will be at 8:00 am followed by Holy Rosary and public viewing. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00 am followed by interment service at Mount Carmel Cemetery.

Your thoughts, prayers, love and support are greatly appreciated.

Thank you, Si Yuus Maase, Olomwaay and Salamat Po.

The Family

‘General Hospital’ wins big with 5 Daytime Emmys

By FRAZIER MOORE
AP TELEVISION WRITER

The Daytime Emmys showered “General Hospital” with five trophies, including best drama, while giving Regis Philbin a fond farewell as a departing talk-show host.

NBC’s “Today” show won as best morning show and the syndicated “Jeopardy!” was named best game show at the annual ceremony Saturday.

“Live with Regis and Kelly” was saluted as best entertainment talk show (its first-ever nod in that category) and for best talk-show hosts. Philbin ended his long run as its co-host last November, with a replacement yet to be named to join Kelly Ripa as the syndicated series continues.

WINNERS’ LIST

- Drama series: “**General Hospital**.”
- Lead actress in a drama series: **Heather Tom**, “The Bold and the Beautiful.”
- Lead actor in a drama series: **Anthony Geary**, “General Hospital.”
- Supporting actress in a drama series: **Nancy Lee Grahn**, “General Hospital.”
- Supporting actor in a drama series: **Jonathan Jackson**, “General Hospital.”
- Younger actor in a drama series: **Chandler Massey**, “Days of Our Lives.”
- Younger actress in a drama series: **Christel Khalil**, “The Young and the Restless.”
- Drama series directing team: “**General Hospital**.”
- Drama series writing team: “**Days Of Our Lives**.”
- Game show: “**Jeopardy!**”
- Game-show host: **Todd Newton**, “Family Game Night.”
- Informative talk show: “**Dr. Oz**.”
- Entertainment talk show: “**Live with Regis and Kelly**.”
- Talk-show host: **Regis Philbin** and **Kelly Ripa**, “Live with Regis and Kelly.”
- Morning show: “**Today**.”
- Culinary program: “**Bobby Flay’s Barbecue Addiction**.”
- Culinary/lifestyle host: **Sandra Lee**, “Semi-Homemade Cooking.”
- Children’s animated program: “**Penguins of Madagascar**.”
- Performer in a children’s program: **Kevin Clash** (as Elmo), “Sesame Street.”
- Legal/courtroom program: “**Last Shot with Judge Gunn**.”
- New approaches in daytime entertainment: “**Take This Lollipop**” (online).

Heather Tom, who won as best lead actress for CBS’ “The Bold and the Beautiful,” made history as the first to win in that category after having previously won as both best younger actress and supporting actress.

Anthony Geary won as lead actor for “General Hospital.” The ABC soap also won for supporting actress (Nancy Lee Grahn), supporting actor (Jonathan Jackson), and directing team.

The syndicated “Dr. Oz” was named best informative talk show.

Bill Geddie, longtime associate of Barbara Walters and executive producer of her ABC talk show “The View,” received the life achievement award.

“There’s not a lot of glamour and glory in daytime,” Geddie told the room in his acceptance remarks. “But when you think about it, we’re all here with the best of intentions: We just love making TV!”

Held in Beverly Hills, Calif., the 39th Annual Daytime Emmy Awards was telecast on the HLN channel, having moved to cable for the first time after airing on CBS the past two years. The awards are bestowed by the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences.

The Beverly Hilton, where the presentation originated, was the site only hours earlier of what investigators believe was a murder-suicide. Police responding to a report of a shooting late Friday found a man and a woman dead from gunshot wounds in a guest room. The luxury hotel was also the site of Whitney Houston’s death in February, when the singer drowned in the bathtub of her room.

Who’s landing the big interviews after Oprah?

By DAVID BAUDER
AP TELEVISION WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—Since Oprah Winfrey packed up the couch that Tom Cruise jumped on and ended her daytime talk show last year, no one has truly filled her role as the top go-to person in television for major celebrity and news interviews.

Now someone is trying to claim that spot—and would you believe it’s Oprah again?

Faced with the potential failure of her money-pit cable network OWN, Winfrey is working the phones hard to secure big-name interviews for her show, “Oprah’s Next Chapter.” Back-to-back episodes last Sunday featured the Kardashian family and rapper 50 Cent, and the Kardashians will be back this weekend. Michael Jackson’s daughter Paris and the late Whitney Houston’s family made news with their interviews in recent weeks.

The open question is whether she can have the same cultural impact on a smaller stage. Winfrey’s daytime talk show was generally seen by around 6 million people in her final years; “Oprah’s Next Chapter” with the Kardashians was seen by 1.1 million viewers, according to the Nielsen company.

“I am sure that people have a conversation about that when they are exploring their options,” said Sheri Salata, OWN president. “The one constant we have ... is that you have the opportunity to sit down with Oprah.”

Winfrey’s daytime show wasn’t all about interviews, of course. But in her last few seasons, she sat down for conversations with the likes of Tina Fey, Elizabeth Edwards, Michelle Obama, Madonna, Denzel Washington, Jerry Seinfeld, Richard Branson and Beyonce.

The audience was primarily women but, as Cruise proved with his eager declarations of love for Katie Holmes in 2005, the cultural impact could spread beyond the afternoon.

AP

This undated image originally released by Harpo, Inc. shows host Oprah Winfrey posing with Paris Jackson, daughter of the late pop icon Michael Jackson in Los Angeles. Winfrey interviewed Jackson for an “Oprah’s Next Chapter,” special which aired on June 10 on OWN.

“Doing an interview on one of those shows was like Johnny Carson asking you to come sit with him after you’ve done your stand-up,” said Robert Thompson, director of the Bleier Center for Television and Popular Culture at Syracuse University. “If there was any equivalent to playing the Palace at the end of the 20th and beginning of the 21st centuries, being on ‘Oprah’ might have been it.”

While Thompson said that “half the people can’t find OWN on their cable television,” that may underestimate Winfrey. The “Oprah’s Next Chapter” episode with Houston’s family in March premiered to 3.5 million people, Nielsen said. Many others heard about it or saw clips.

Winfrey’s presence in daytime was a mixed blessing for veteran Hollywood publicist Howard Bragman. Most of his clients wanted to be on “Oprah” and were convinced they had a story she wanted to hear. When they did, it was great.

When they didn’t, not so great. “It was a ton of pressure,” he said, “and there’s a part of me that is happy the pressure has lifted.”

Now he can suggest a media strategy with interviewers who can reach his clients’ target audiences. Bragman often goes retro, preferring the news divisions at broadcast television networks.

Ellen DeGeneres is probably the leading personality in daytime now, but her show is about entertainment. Dr. Phil and Anderson Cooper get some interviews, as does “The View” and “The Talk.”

None has the impact that Winfrey had on a consistent basis, said Bill Carroll, an expert in the syndication market for Katz Media.

Also missing from the scene is CNN’s Larry King, who didn’t have the same juice as Winfrey but had a friendly reputation that made him a popular stop for people with hard stories to tell. King’s replacement, Piers Morgan, is not as established and is dragged down by CNN’s ratings problems.

Katie Couric, whose daytime talk show starts in the fall, could be Winfrey’s true heir as an interviewer in daytime. Her lengthy tenure at NBC’s “Today” show makes her able to deftly switch from world leaders to actors to quirky celebrities enjoying 15 minutes of fame. “Not many people can do that,” Bragman said.

First things first, however. Couric needs to build a show and prove that people want to watch her. Establishing booking superiority before Couric starts could benefit Winfrey.

While “Today” and CBS’ “60 Minutes” are able to land strong interviews, no television organization has been as aggressive as ABC News in seeking the big “gets.” The latest example is this week, with the network giving a prime-time platform to Chris Cuomo’s interview with former presidential candidate John Edwards’ mistress Rielle Hunter.

Diane Sawyer was rewarded last summer when her interview with Jaycee Dugard, who had been held captive by a sex offender for 18 years, had the best summertime ratings of a newsmagazine since 2004. Her November interview with Rep. Gabrielle Giffords about recovering from being shot in the head was seen by more than 12 million people.

NYPD: Man swipes Dali painting from art gallery

NEW YORK (AP)—A thief who swiped a Salvador Dali painting off the wall of a New York art gallery may have escaped, but experts say the painting will likely be recovered when it comes back onto the art market.

Police are searching for a slim man with a receding hairline who walked into a Madison Avenue art gallery on Tuesday posing as a customer and walked out with the $150,000 Dali watercolor and ink painting in a large black shopping bag.

The man asked a security guard if he could take a photo, then removed the painting as soon as the guard stepped away, the New York Daily News reported. Surveillance cameras captured the man, who was wearing a black-and-white checked shirt, on his way out the door.

The 1949 painting, called “Cartel des Don Juan Tenorio,” was part of the Venus Over Manhattan art gallery’s very first exhibition. The gallery, which opened to the public in May, did not respond to a request for comment Friday.

The vast majority of high-end paintings such as this one are eventually recovered because they are such rare works of art and easily tracked, said Robert Wittman, an art-security consultant and former investigator for the FBI’s national art crime team.

“Generally speaking, art thieves are fairly good criminals, but they’re terrible businessmen,” he said. “And the true art is not the stealing, it’s the selling.”

While the gallery’s security measures are unclear, Wittman said most galleries and museums have electronic surveillance, guards on duty and specific protocols in place to prevent such thefts. When one of these measures breaks down, theft is more likely to occur.

“At some point, when that person was given access to the painting, the guard was not looking,” Wittman said. “That would be against any kind of protocol.”

The gallery’s inaugural exhibit has several dozen works of art from the 19th century to the present on display.

Dali painted the work when he was creating the backdrop and set designs for a theater production in Madrid, said William Jeffett, curator at the Dali Museum in St. Petersburg, Florida.

“It seems to be a design for the poster that they used to promote the theatrical production,” Jeffett said.

Last year, a wine steward went on a bicoastal binge of plucking pricey art off gallery walls in California and New York. Mark Lugo, 31, pleaded guilty to taking a $350,000 drawing by Cubist painter Fernand Leger from a lobby gallery at Manhattan’s Carlyle Hotel.

He also admitted to snatching a $275,000 Picasso drawing called “Tete de Femme” (“Head of a Woman”) from the Weinstein Gallery in San Francisco.

Investigators found a $430,000 collection of stolen art—including the Leger, a 1917 piece called “Composition with Mechanical Elements”—hanging in Lugo’s apartment in Hoboken, New Jersey.

“Galleries are usually more open or vulnerable to theft,” Wittman said. “Because museums are built to keep the art in. Galleries are built to put the art out.”

Ben Affleck glad to be family man, not tab target

WASHINGTON (AP)—Ben Affleck is managing to live a relatively private life in a Hollywood fishbowl.

He's no longer tailed daily by the paparazzi, as he was when he dated Jennifer Lopez from 2002 to 2004. It was a time when entertainment coverage was starting to explode and the couple were on the cover of every magazine and tabloid, and the top story on TV entertainment shows.

AP

This Sept. 7, 2010 file photo shows actor Ben Affleck at the 67th edition of the Venice Film Festival in Venice, Italy, where he promoted his film, "The Town."

"I definitely was in a tabloid crosshair," he said in a recent interview with The Associated Press. "It mucks up your life."

He described the constant attention as "sort of snarky and venal and kind of overwhelming."

The paparazzi weren't going to change their ways, so Affleck changed his life. He married Jennifer Garner, had three kids, and cut down his "compulsive" work schedule.

But not entirely: Affleck was in Washington D.C. this week to raise awareness for something else he holds dear—his Eastern Congo Initiative to reduce the child mortality rate in the region.

Now, the paparazzi only occasionally take photos of Affleck and Garner when they're out with Violet, 6, Seraphina, 3, and Sam, 4 months.

"I feel like I have a chance to do the most exciting stuff that I've done in my career," he said. "I'm the luckiest guy in the world."

Black Keys sue Pizza Hut, Home Depot over song use

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The Black Keys are not shilling power tools or pizza, the band said in copyright infringement lawsuits against The Home Depot and Pizza Hut.

The "Lonely Boy" band filed the federal lawsuits Thursday, claiming Home Depot did not have permission to use elements of the hit song in an ad promoting power tools and that Pizza Hut misused "Gold on the Ceiling" in a recent ad.

Both songs appeared on the rock group's seventh album, "El Camino," which was released last year and has sold nearly 840,000 copies. The Black Keys are comprised of Dan Auerbach and Patrick Carney. Musician-producer Brian Burton, who is known as Danger Mouse, is also suing the companies.

"The experts confirmed that this was copyright infringement," band spokeswoman Mary Moyer said in a statement.

The cases seek unspecified damages of more than $75,000 apiece and an order preventing the continued use of the songs in the commercials.

"We haven't seen the complaint yet, but respect for intellectual property rights is a matter we take very seriously," said Home Depot spokesman Stephen Holmes.

Pizza Hut spokesman Christopher Fuller said the company also hasn't seen the case, but fully respects artists' rights. He directed inquiries to the ad's creators, The Martin Agency and The Interpublic Group of Companies.

A Martin Agency spokesman said the company doesn't respond to pending lawsuits, and a spokesman for the Interpublic Group of Companies was not immediately available.

The suits claim both companies were given written notices that the ads misused The Black Keys' music. The Home Depot ad touts Ryobi power tools, while the Pizza Hut ad touts its new "Cheesy Bites Pizza."

Neither company received permission to use musical elements from the songs. The ads do not include any vocals.

"Lonely Boy" and "Gold on the Ceiling" both topped the Billboard alternative music chart after their release.

The Black Keys won two Grammy Awards in 2010 for music from their album "Brothers," which won the Best Alternative Music Album award that year.

Elvis Presley's crypt pulled from auction block

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Elvis Presley's crypt has left the auction block.

Celebrity auctioneer Darren Julien said Friday that his company has agreed not to sell the crypt after fans worldwide demanded that it be kept as a shrine to his memory.

Julien's Auctions announced in May that it would sell the empty tomb at the Forest Hill Cemetery in Memphis, Tenn., at its "Music Icons" auction Sunday. Julien said the company won't sell the crypt "until Forest Hills finds a plan that best suits the interests of the fans while respecting and preserving the memory of Elvis Presley."

Presley was interred there alongside his mother, Gladys, after he died Aug. 16, 1977. Two months later, they were reburied at his Graceland home. The original crypt has remained empty ever since.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Sam Taylor-Wood, Aaron Johnson get married

LONDON (AP)—Publicists say artist Sam Taylor-Wood and actor Aaron Johnson have tied the knot. A statement Friday from Public Eye Communications said the couple, who have two young children, married on Thursday—the summer solstice—in Somerset, southwest England. The statement said 45-year-old Taylor-Wood wore a dress by Sarah Burton of Alexander McQueen. The 22-year-old Johnson wore a suit by Tom Ford.

Johnson played the young John Lennon in Taylor-Wood's 2009 film "Nowhere Boy" and went on to star in "Kick Ass" and the upcoming "Anna Karenina." The statement said the couple would both use the surname Taylor-Johnson.

Swamp People TV star arrested in Florida

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. (AP)—One of the stars of the TV reality show "Swamp People" has been arrested in Florida on domestic violence charges. Noces Joseph LaFont Jr.—who is known as "Trapper Joe" on TV—was arrested Wednesday by Orange County Sheriff's deputies. According to an arrest affidavit, LaFont was arguing with his girlfriend while staying at a hotel near Disney World and tried to burn her with a lit cigarette. The report also says he punched the woman with a closed fist. LaFont, who is from Louisiana, was charged with battery and assault. He was booked into Jail, posted bail and released. It's unclear whether he has retained an attorney. "Swamp People" is a History channel show that follows Cajuns who hunt alligators.

US man charged with vandalizing 1929 Picasso

HOUSTON (AP)—Houston police are searching for a man now charged with vandalizing a 1929 Pablo Picasso painting in an act that was caught on video. Uriel Landeros of Houston was charged Friday with felony graffiti and criminal mischief for spray painting the artwork titled "Woman in a Red Armchair" at the city's Menil Collection. Crime Stoppers says it's offering a $5,000 reward for tips leading to the 22-year-old's arrest. The painting was damaged June 13. The act of vandalism was caught in a 24-second video taken by a bystander and posted on YouTube. It shows a man dressed in black holding a stencil up to the work of art and spray-painting it. He left behind an image of a bullfighter, a bull and the word "conquista," the Spanish word for conquest.

R&B singer Maxwell cancels short tour due to voice

NEW YORK (AP)—R&B singer Maxwell has cancelled his short U.S. tour after developing vocal swelling and hemorrhaging. A representative for the R&B singer said Friday that he has been advised by doctors to rest and undergo treatment. Maxwell's six-date summer tour had shows planned for Los Angeles, Atlanta and Newark, N.J. for July and August. Maxwell said in the statement that cancelling the tour "sucks" and he plans to hit the road when his new album, "blackSUMMERS'night," is released later this year. The 39-year-old made his return to music in 2009 after a seven-year break with the platinum album "BLACKsummers'night." It won the singer-songwriter two Grammy Awards, among other accolades. The statement also said refunds are available at the point of purchase.

'Devious Maids' finds a 2013 home at Lifetime

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The Lifetime channel says it's picking up a new series from the creator of "Desperate Housewives." The channel said Friday it has ordered 13 episodes of "Devious Maids" from producer Marc Cherry. The series is about maids working for the rich and famous in Beverly Hills and counts "Desperate Housewives" star Eva Longoria as an executive producer. "Desperate Housewives" ended its run on ABC this season. The network had been weighing "Devious Maids" for its 2012-2013 schedule but passed. The "Devious Maids" cast includes Ana Ortiz, Judy Reyes, Grant Show and Susan Lucci. Lifetime is aiming for a 2013 debut for the series, which is based on a Mexican telenovela and produced by ABC Studios.

Grandma's birthday party causes generational rift

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: I just celebrated my 80th birthday at a party with 22 of my dearest friends. I also invited my daughter-in-law, "Sydney," and her mother.

The problem is, I didn't invite my 8-year-old granddaughter. I explained that I felt she wouldn't enjoy herself with all of us senior women. Sydney disagreed.

I then suggested perhaps it would be better if I had a dinner party for the entire family the following evening (on my actual birthday) at a fine dining restaurant. In retaliation for my not inviting my granddaughter, Sydney declined the dinner invitation, although all other family members attended. My "punishment" was not to receive a birthday present from her.

Was I wrong not to invite my granddaughter to a party with my 80-year-old friends?

TRIED TO BE CONSIDERATE

DEAR TRIED: I don't think so. You were being considerate of your granddaughter's feelings. Had she attended, she would have been bored, and one of your guests or her mother and grandmother would have had to entertain her. Frankly, it would have been a distraction from the celebration. That your daughter-in-law would be so petulant as to "punish" you for making the intelligent choice you did indicates that she has some growing up to do. You owe no one any apologies; Sydney does.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: My sister-in-law, the only girl and the youngest of my husband's siblings, is being married soon. We couldn't be happier. The problem is my mother-in-law. Anytime the subject of the wedding comes up and I chime in, she says, "How would YOU know? You didn't have a wedding."

My husband and I eloped six years ago. Since then, the subject of weddings has been a problem between my mother-in-law and me. In my opinion, I DID have a wedding. There was a beautiful location, an officiant, a dress, and a commitment made between my husband and me.

She continues to make it painfully obvious that she feels it wasn't a valid wedding because she wasn't there. Her comments, in front of my husband and children, are insulting and hurtful. Is there anything I could say to let her know we don't agree with her without rocking the boat too much before her daughter's wedding?

AS MARRIED AS ANYONE

DEAR MARRIED AS ANYONE: No, but there is plenty you can say after it's over. At that time, you AND your husband should talk to his mother together so she hears from both of you that her sniping is inappropriate.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: Would you please weigh in on whether you think wearing sunglasses indoors—particularly in the evening—is rude and not conducive to friendly communication with others? (This isn't a situation involving eye problems.)

NOTHING TO HIDE IN NEW JERSEY

DEAR NOTHING TO HIDE: It is said that the eyes are the windows of the soul. I agree that trying to converse with someone who is wearing sunglasses can be confusing, because it prevents you from picking up nonverbal cues you might otherwise be given.

The person you're writing about may be shy, paranoid or hiding the bleary remnants of a hangover. But unless you ask why he or she is hiding behind the sunglasses, you will never know if there's a valid reason for it.

■■■

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

■■■

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

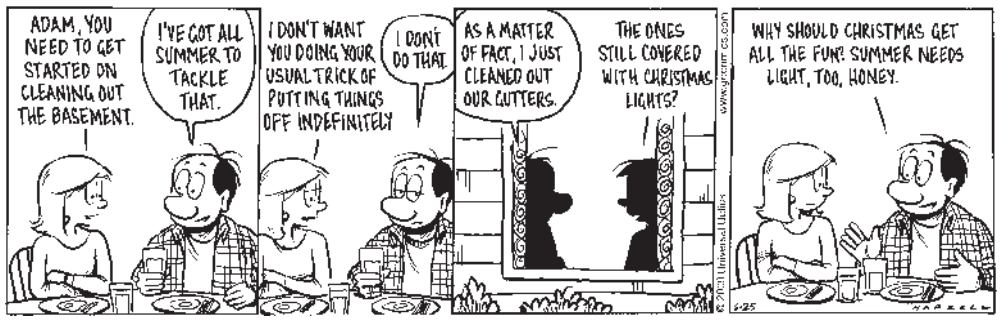
MOM GOT ME SOME CLAY! WANT TO HELP ME MAKE SOMETHING?
DO WE GET SMOCKS? I WANT A SMOCK!
THIS KIND OF CLAY ISN'T THAT MESSY. YOU DON'T NEED A SMOCK.
I WANT A SMOCK!
OK, OK, YOU CAN HAVE A SMOCK!
LET'S GET A MARKER AND WRITE, "DON'T KNOCK MY SMOCK, OR I'LL CLEAN YOUR CLOCK."
I GUESS IT WOULDN'T SHOW IF DAD WORE HIS SUIT COAT.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

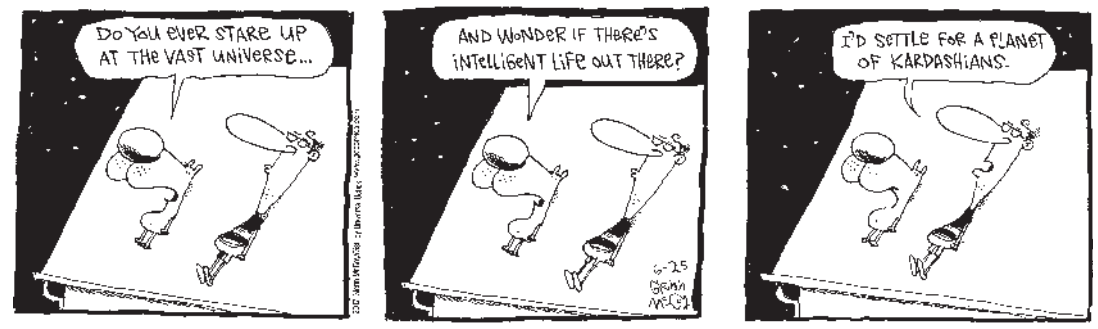
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


ADAM, YOU NEED TO GET STARTED ON CLEANING OUT THE BASEMENT.
I'VE GOT ALL SUMMER TO TACKLE THAT.
I DON'T WANT YOU DOING YOUR USUAL TRICK OF PUTTING THINGS OFF INDEFINITELY
I DON'T DO THAT.
AS A MATTER OF FACT, I JUST CLEANED OUT OUR GUTTERS.
THE ONES STILL COVERED WITH CHRISTMAS LIGHTS?
WHY SHOULD CHRISTMAS GET ALL THE FUN? SUMMER NEEDS LIGHT, TOO, HONEY.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


DO YOU EVER STARE UP AT THE VAST UNIVERSE...
AND WONDER IF THERE'S INTELLIGENT LIFE OUT THERE?
I'D SETTLE FOR A PLANET OF KARDASHIANS.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

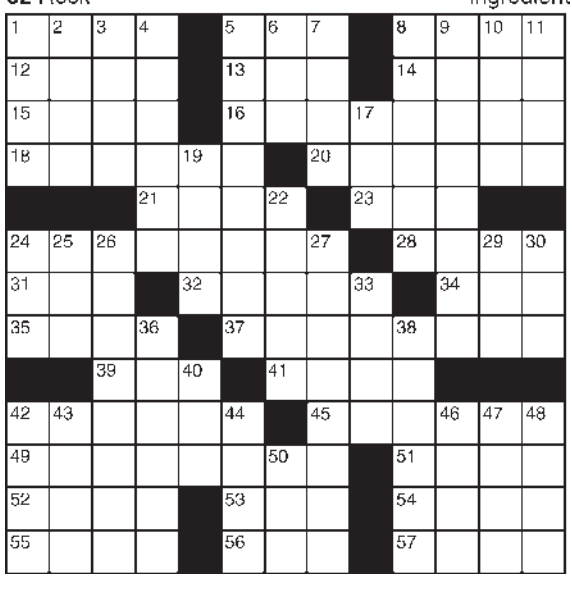
ACROSS
1 Cheek by — (adjoining)
5 Woman
8 Two-timers
12 Geometry find
13 Singer Sumac
14 Leave out
15 Dissolve
16 Contingency funds
18 One of Henry VIII's Annes
20 Strike from the text
21 The Red and the Black
23 "— the season to be jolly"
24 Post-tragedy joking, e.g.
28 Layer
31 Bullring bravo
32 Rock
34 Beer's cousin
35 Snapshots
37 Inept ones
39 Knock
41 Frog's kin
42 Church key, e.g.
45 Steering gadget
49 Dressy clothing
51 Tittle
52 Misplace
53 Compete
54 Applaud
55 Basin accessory
56 Conclusion
57 Examination

DOWN
1 Doorframe piece
2 Sandwich cookie
3 Water source
4 Most up-to-date
5 Acrobats
6 "I — Camera"
7 Actress Cheryl
8 "Stop!"
9 One with no memories
10 Regimen
11 Eyelid problem
17 Encountered
19 Favorable votes
22 Brown ermine
24 Jazzy style
25 Muhammad or Laila
26 Lessen
27 Backed
29 Wapiti
30 In medias —
33 Jacob's brother
36 Woodsmoothing machine
38 User
40 Apiece
42 Look lecherously
43 Turn the soil
44 Carry on
46 Ration (out)
47 Greek vowels
48 Engrossed
50 Martini ingredient

Solution time: 24 mins.

■	S	M	A	R	T	■	O	B	S	E	S	S
B	O	O	B	O	O	■	G	L	A	N	C	E
B	R	A	Y	E	R	■	R	E	N	T	A	L
C	A	T	S	■	T	I	E	S	■	I	M	A
■	■	■	S	M	U	T	■	S	A	T	■	■
D	U	O	■	A	R	C	S	■	D	I	C	C
O	F	F	I	C	E	H	O	L	D	E	R	S
C	O	C	O	■	D	I	N	E	■	S	O	P
■	■	■	O	N	O	■	N	I	G	H	■	■
C	P	U	■	S	I	G	N	■	A	M	I	D
H	E	R	O	I	N	■	L	I	B	I	D	O
I	S	S	U	E	D	■	A	R	I	S	E	N
P	O	E	T	R	Y	■	W	A	T	T	S	■

Saturday's answer 6-25



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Busy Phillips, 33; Jason Lewis, 41; Ricky Gervais, 51; Carly Simon, 67.

Happy Birthday: Concentrate on home, family and creativity. Develop your environment to suit the needs of those you love. The more activity you can drum up in familiar places, the better you will do. You may not enjoy change, but it will improve your lifestyle. Apply pressure where it's needed and you will reach your goals. Your numbers are 3, 8, 15, 22, 30, 42, 46.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Be honest about what you can and cannot contribute. Size up your situation and understand what's needed, especially if institutions, agencies or finances are involved. A little can go a long way, but precision and timing will be essential. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Take a minimalist position, regardless of what anyone else says or does. Too much of anything will be your downfall. Don't initiate change or travel unnecessarily. Listen, but reserve judgment and decisions until you are certain of your goals. ✪✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Don't jump to conclusions, take sides or make assumptions. Evaluate each situation separately and make decisions based on observation, not speculation. Lowering your overhead and simplifying your life will enable you to excel, slowly but surely. ✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): You will find ways to improve your surroundings and your relationships if you look hard enough. Don't limit the possibilities. Explore avenues that can change your lifestyle and your attitude regarding creative ventures. New beginnings will pay off. ✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Withhold information if you think it might incriminate you. Patience and tolerance will be required to avoid being restricted or limited by anyone sitting in an influential position. Rely on experience to help you make the right choice now. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Take note of what's happening at home and at work. You may have to counter a move that has the potential to hold you back. Don't let emotions prevent you from moving forward with your plans. Productivity must not be sacrificed. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Waffling or holding back the way you really feel will not help you get ahead. Love, romance and self-improvement should all be at the top of your list. Plan your actions carefully, however, and stick to a set budget. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Make suggestions and be passionate about your pursuits. An intuitive guide will help you make the right choices regarding your investments and alterations to your home. Don't be fooled by a greedy fast-talker. Be willing to change your mind. ✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): You cannot please everyone, so do what's best for you. Altering the way you live or lowering your overhead will help relieve stress. Don't let emotions stand in the way of a good decision. Act on fact, not on hearsay. ✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Avoid impulsive expenditures. Budget and pay outright for anything you want. A change in your social plans or love life will be to your benefit. Children or a free-spirited individual can help you recognize alternative options. ✪✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): The more you do to enhance your surroundings, the better you will feel about your future. Greater financial confidence will help you present a better depiction of what you have to offer. Base your changes on experience. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Stick to what you do best and offer what you can to those in need, but don't give to someone who is looking for a free ride. Choose your battles and your allies carefully. Don't let emotions interfere with progress. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are creative, precise, open and determined to do well.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	9			8				2
7		3			5	8		
	5		3				6	
		6		4			8	
4			2		3			1
	1			6		9		
	7				1		4	
		2	8			1		6
6				3			5	

Difficulty Level ★ 6/25

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's SUDOKU Answer

3	2	1	7	4	8	6	5	9
7	8	9	1	5	6	2	4	3
4	6	5	2	9	3	7	8	1
2	9	3	6	7	4	5	1	8
6	1	4	8	3	5	9	7	2
8	5	7	9	2	1	4	3	6
9	3	6	4	8	7	1	2	5
1	4	8	5	6	2	3	9	7
5	7	2	3	1	9	8	6	4

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 6/23

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

REAL FRENCH FRIES ARE NOT FROZEN **Solution: 8 letters**

B	S	S	P	C	S	B	R	E	H	F	R	I	E	D
W	A	P	U	O	I	L	S	C	S	K	G	N	O	L
A	E	R	I	F	T	L	R	F	A	P	I	R	T	R
V	L	I	B	R	A	A	R	E	H	(T)	I	E	H	E
Y	K	N	A	E	T	S	T	A	U	(H)	S	H	I	H
H	N	K	T	S	C	S	T	O	G	(I)	K	T	C	S
C	I	L	T	H	H	U	P	F	E	(N)	I	L	K	O
N	R	E	E	O	C	S	E	A	O	S	N	A	C	K
U	C	A	R	M	N	G	V	S	P	O	C	S	S	S
R	T	T	E	E	E	S	R	W	A	R	D	E	P	L
C	H	T	D	M	R	P	E	A	I	U	I	I	E	I
P	E	E	D	A	F	I	S	S	V	R	C	K	P	C
B	R	E	A	D	E	D	P	H	F	Y	C	E	A	E
P	O	W	D	E	R	O	A	S	T	E	D	U	H	S
T	E	S	I	A	N	N	O	Y	A	M	F	I	S	H

© 2012 Universal Uclick www.wonderword.com Join us on Facebook 6/25

Barbecue Sauce, Battered, Breaded, Chips, Crinkle, Crisp, Crunchy, Curly, Deep, Dips, Fast Food, Fish, French, Fried, Fries, Garlic, Gravy, Hash, Heat, Herbs, Homemade, Kosher, Long, Mayonnaise, Oils, Paprika, Potatoes, Poutine, Powder, Roasted, Salt, Serve, Shape, Short, Skin, Slices, Snack, Spicy, Sprinkle, Starch, Steak, Strips, Sweet, Thick, Thin, Wash, Wavy

Last Saturday's Answer: Paddington

CLASSIFIED ADS

LOOKING TO BUY VEHICLES

We're buying '95 & Up used cars! Transaction only within 30 mins. Call 287-8688 or visit DPA CAR MART in San Antonio.

Seriously looking for used cars Year 2003 & up 4 cylinder & truck. Good condition. We pay cash! Call 287-7676

LOOKING FOR JOB

I am a Chinese Male, Simple English. I can be a driver, farmer, laborer and can also do general maintenance. Tel. 287-6686.

BUSINESS FOR SALE

Massage Shop on Guam. sale for business (not real estate) well populated area. $10,000. call 671-727-8447 or send inquiry to tropicisla@hotmail.com

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

2 Bedroom Apartment for Rent. For $200.00 / month. Koblerville, please call 288-0728.

Ocean View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. $600/mo. Call 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Sunset View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. $550. Call 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Lower Navy Hill Apts. Newly renovated bldg., 3BR & 2BTH. Rooms w/ A/C & fully furnished. Back-up generator. Free Wi-Fi, EPA Solar Water Heater. Laundry area. Nightime security. $450/mo. Call 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties.com. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

Duplex Apt Capitol Hill

2 br, 1 bth, Fully Furnished
w/ AC, Linens, Pots, Pans, etc.,
very private: 322-2424

SERVICES

Check out Saipanevo.com
And enter to win cool stuff.
Website helpline 788-1658

WANTED TO BUY

Need cash fast??? We want to buy your OnePass miles or Skymiles!!! Call 888-2205.

C & R CORPORATION - JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

PURCHASING OFFICER
NEED TO HAVE 2 - 5 YEARS EXPERIENCE
RATE: $5.55 - $6.75
SALARY WILL BE BASE ON EXPERIENCE

PLEASE E-MAIL RESUME AT CANDR@PTICOM.COM

FOR SALE

(1) Used 1985 International Auger Truck
(1) Used Samsung Excavator with Rock Breaker
Price Negotiable Please call
#234-3201 or 483-3201

WORLD RESORT

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

OPEN DATE: June 25, 2012 **POSITION: Guest Relations Officer**
CLOSE DATE: July 2, 2012 **SALARY: Minimum Wage/Negotiable**
Qualifications:
High school graduate or equivalent. Proficiency in Japanese Language highly preferred. Minimum two (2) years in hotel front desk or concierge services strongly preferred. Must have excellent people skills, willingness to provide service, friendly attitude and ready smile.

OPEN DATE: June 25, 2012 **POSITION: Cook (Korean Cuisine)**
CLOSE DATE: July 2, 2012 **SALARY: Minimum Wage/Negotiable**
Qualifications:
High school graduate or equivalent. Minimum two (2) years in culinary experience preferred. Applicants with formal training/education in culinary arts strongly preferred.

OPEN DATE: June 25, 2012 **POSITION: Cook (Western Cuisine)**
CLOSE DATE: July 2, 2012 **SALARY: Minimum Wage/Negotiable**
Qualifications:
High school graduate or equivalent. Minimum two (2) years in culinary experience preferred. Applicants with formal training/education in culinary arts strongly preferred.

OPEN DATE: June 25, 2012 **POSITION: Cook (Chinese Cuisine)**
CLOSE DATE: July 2, 2012 **SALARY: Minimum Wage/Negotiable**
Qualifications:
High school graduate or equivalent. Minimum two (2) years in culinary experience preferred. Applicants with formal training/education in culinary arts strongly preferred.

OPEN DATE: June 25, 2012 **POSITION: Steward**
CLOSE DATE: July 2, 2012 **SALARY: Minimum Wage/Negotiable**
Qualifications:
High school graduate or equivalent. Minimum two (2) years experience in food service preferred. This position may require employee to receive certain food handler related health examinations and clearances before hire and continue to receive such examinations and clearances as a condition to their continued employment.

OPEN DATE: June 25, 2012 **POSITION: Housekeeping Attendant**
CLOSE DATE: July 2, 2012 **SALARY: Minimum Wage**
Qualifications:
High school graduate or equivalent. Minimum two years in housekeeping or commercial cleaning preferred. Must have a friendly and outgoing personality.

OPEN DATE: June 25, 2012 **POSITION: Maintenance Repairer**
CLOSE DATE: July 2, 2012 **SALARY: Minimum Wage**
Qualifications:
High school graduate or equivalent. Minimum two (2) year experience preferred. Formal education / training in construction related field highly preferred.

OPEN DATE: June 25, 2012 **POSITION: Education/Training Coordinator**
CLOSE DATE: July 2, 2012 **SALARY: Minimum Wage/Negotiable**
Qualifications:
High school graduate or equivalent. Minimum three (3) year experience preferred. Human Resources / personnel management experience preferred. Excellent communications skills and presentation skills highly preferred.

For more information, please contact Ms. Miriam K. Seman, Human Resources Team Manager at (670) 234-5900 ext. 274/266.

Employment application forms are available at the Saipan World Resort, Security Office, located next to the Wave Jungle Water Park. Applicants must submit the completed form and all the necessary requirements to the Security Office. Incomplete application will not be received by the Security Office.

SUCCESS INTERNATIONAL CORP.
DBA: SUCCESS AUTO REPAIR SHOP
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

(1) AUTO AND HEAVY EQUIPMENT ELECTRICIAN

QUALIFICATIONS:

MORE THAN 5 YEARS EXPERIENCE
H.S. VOCATIONAL OR COLLEGE LEVEL

RATE: $5.50 - $6.00 PER HOUR

Knowledgeable in mechanical problem.
in charge of repairing, troubleshooting and upgrading the vehicle's electrical system as well as the devices that relies on electrical energy.

KNOW HOW TO DIAGNOSE ELECTRICAL WIRING/CABLE PROBLEM OF VEHICLE

KNOW HOW TO REPAIR OR HANDLE EVERYTHING SUCH AS VEHICLE IGNITION, ALARM, COOLING AND HEATING SYSTEM, POWER WINDOW AND LOCK, NAVIGATION SYSTEM.

APPLY OR SEND RESUME TO SUCCESSFUL INTERNATIONAL CORP.
PMB 778 BOX 10003 SAIPAN MP 96950
LOWER BASE OR CALL 322-1558/1988

Century Travel Agency dba Century Tours
is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following positions:

Tour Guide (2)
Requires: High School Diploma, GED or equivalent with at least 2 years of Tour Operations, Sales or Service related job experience. Must be able to speak Chinese. Ability to read, write, and understand Mandarin is an advantage. Must have excellent communication, organizational and selling skills. A valid driver's license is required along with a clean driving record. Availability to work on evenings, holidays and weekends is also required.

Applications can be obtained at Century Tours' HR Office at Kanoa Resort formerly Saipan Grand Hotel in Susupe. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than June 27, 2012. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

Century Travel Agency dba Century Tours is an
Equal Opportunity Employer.
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

WHATZIT Solution: One thing after another

JOON CORPORATION is looking for:

DANCERS, WAITRESSES, BARTENDERS

Qualifications: High school graduate. A minimum of five years of work-related skill, knowledge or experience. Willing to work late hours.

Applications may be submitted to Joon Corp. dba King's Club at Garapan, Saipan or email cross_road_44@hotmail.com, Tel. No. 233-0353 or 483-5382
All applications must be accompanied by a current resume.

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$27
• 5-Liner	$24	$39
• 3-Liner with picture	$24	$42
• 5-Liner with picture	$36	$57

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
- All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

another thing

WHATZIT? © 2012 www.whatzit.com

www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames

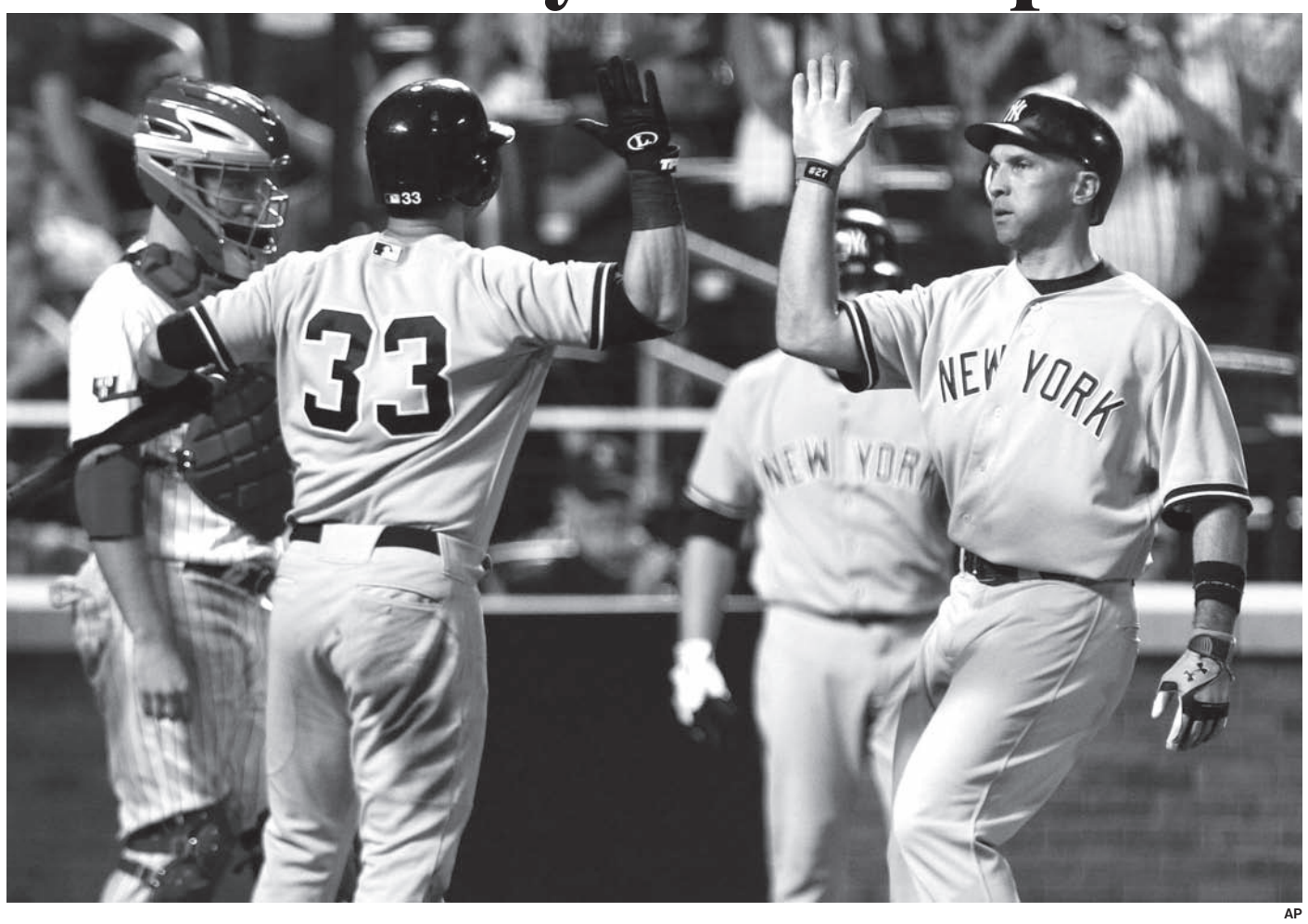
Find today's solution in classified section

Ibanez, Chavez rally Yankees past Mets, 4-3

NEW YORK (AP)—Raul Ibanez tied the game with a three-run homer, pinch-hitter Eric Chavez came through with a go-ahead shot moments later and the New York Yankees rallied past the New York Mets 4-3 Saturday night to stop a three-game skid.

Riding the long ball again, the Yankees won for the fourth time in five Subway Series matchups this season. The finale is quite an attraction, too, with R.A. Dickey coming off consecutive one-hitters when he faces Yankees ace CC Sabathia in a much-anticipated pitching duel Sunday night.

Daniel Murphy, who hasn't homered all season, nearly won this one for the Mets in the ninth inning. With a runner aboard, he hit a deep drive into the right-field corner that was caught just in front of the fence for the final out.



AP

New York Yankees' Raul Ibanez, right, celebrates with teammate Nick Swisher (33) after hitting a three-run home run during the seventh inning of an interleague baseball game as New York Mets catcher Josh Thole looks on Saturday, June 23, 2012, in New York.

Reds 6, Twins 0

In Cincinnati, Johnny Cueto remained unbeaten in June by pitching seven innings and driving in a pair of runs with a squeeze bunt and a bases-loaded groundout, leading Cincinnati over Minnesota.

The Reds ended their season-high losing streak at four games.

Phillies 7, Rays 6

In Philadelphia, pinch-hitter Jim Thome hit a home run leading off the bottom of the ninth inning to lift the Phillies over Tampa Bay after Jonathan Papelbon blew his first save in 18 chances this season.

Juan Pierre and Jimmy Rollins also homered for the Phillies, helping manager Charlie Manuel earn his 900th career win.

Cardinals 8, Royals 2

In Kansas City, Matt Holliday and Allen Craig paced another big game for the St. Louis offense, and Adam Wainwright took advantage of the robust run support in the Cardinals' victory over the Royals.

Holliday finished 4 for 5 and drove in a pair of runs, pushing his stat line against Kansas City to 13 for 22 with two homers and eight RBIs in five games this season. Craig added a two-run homer and finished with three RBIs for the Cardinals.

Blue Jays 7, Marlins 1

In Miami, Edwin Encarnacion hit a tiebreaking homer in the top of the ninth and Colby Rasmus had a grand slam later in the inning, as Toronto handed the Marlins their sixth straight loss.

Encarnacion led off the ninth with his 21st home run off Steve Cishek (4-1) to break a 1-all tie.

Rockies 11, Rangers 7

In Arlington, Texas, Tyler Colvin and Chris Nelson had consecutive two-out, two-run singles in an early outburst for Colorado, and the Rockies held on for a victory that ended the Texas Rangers' seven-game winning streak.

Before Colorado's four-run third against Colby Lewis (6-6), the Rangers hadn't even allowed more than three runs in a game during their winning streak.

Pirates 4, Tigers 1

In Pittsburgh, Brad Lincoln allowed two hits and a run in six innings, Andrew McCutchen hit a three-run homer and the Pirates beat Detroit for their sixth win in seven games.

Lincoln (4-2) carried a no-hitter through five innings before Ramon Santiago singled to lead off the sixth.

Astros 8, Indians 1

In Houston, rookie Dallas Keuchel pitched a complete game and J.D Martinez and Jordan Schafer hit consecutive homers in Houston's four-run fifth inning, leading the Astros over Cleveland.

Keuchel (1-0) allowed six hits and struck out three for his first win in his second major league start.

Dodgers 3, Angels 1

In Anaheim, California, Chris Capuano outdueled Ervin Santana with seven gritty innings, leading the Los Angeles Dodgers to a 3-1 victory over the Angels and help end the NL West leaders' four-game losing streak.

Capuano (9-2) allowed a run and seven hits, struck out four and walked none while lowering his ERA from 2.71 to 2.51.

Nationals 3, Orioles 1

In Baltimore, Edwin Jackson took a one-hitter into the seventh inning, Adam LaRoche homered, and Washington beat rookie Wei-Yin Chen and Baltimore.

Michael Morse had two hits and scored a run for the NL East-leading Nationals, who improved to 10-7 in interleague play and 2-3 against Baltimore.

Red Sox 8, Braves 4

In Boston, Will Middlebrooks had a solo homer among his three hits and drove in two runs, Franklin Morales gave Boston another decent start in place of Josh Beckett and the Red Sox beat Atlanta.

Dustin Pedroia added three hits, a walk and had two RBIs for Boston, which won for the eighth time in 10 games to ensure a winning interleague record for the eighth straight season.

White Sox 8, Brewers 6

In Chicago, Dayan Viciedo homered and drove in four runs, Alex Rios delivered a tie-breaking single in the seventh inning, and the Chicago White Sox rallied to beat Milwaukee.

With the game tied 6-6, Gordon Beckham led off the seventh with a single and stole second. After an intentional walk to Paul Konerko, Rios put Chicago up for good.

Giants 9, Athletics 8

In Oakland, California, Brandon Belt hit a go-ahead two-run homer in the sixth inning, Buster Posey added a two-run drive in the seventh, and San Francisco backed Madison Bumgarner's fourth straight win with just enough offense, holding on for a narrow victory over Oakland.

After Shane Loux gave up Brandon Inge's two-out single in the ninth, Santiago Casilla entered and allowed Derek Norris' run-scoring single for his first career RBI.

Mariners 5, Padres 1

In San Diego, Felix Hernandez pitched seven impressive innings and hit a two-run double to lead Seattle over San Diego.

Hernandez (5-5) turned in his second strong outing, limiting the Padres to one run and six hits. The right-hander struck out 10 and walked one. His only blemish was a balk that brought home San Diego's only run in the first inning.

Diamondbacks 10, Cubs 5

In Phoenix, Paul Goldschmidt fell a single shy of the cycle, Justin Upton homered for the second time in three games, and Arizona climbed above .500 for the first time since May 4 by beating the Chicago Cubs.

Goldschmidt tripled in a run in Arizona's six-run fourth inning against Paul Maholm (4-6), homered in the sixth, and had a leadoff double. He scored his third run of the night in the eighth.

Davis, Thatcher tied for lead at Travelers

CROMWELL, Conn. (AP) —River Highlands has been the sight of the first PGA Tour win for four of its last six tournament champions.

Roland Thatcher and Englishman Brian Davis would like to make it five of seven.

Davis shot a 6-under 64, and Thatcher had a 65 on Saturday to share the third-round lead in the Travelers Championship at 12 under.

Davis said he's not sure why this tournament, which comes a week after the U.S. Open, has been so good to relative unknowns.

"Obviously, some of the big players aren't here, but there is still a really good field here," Davis said. "It's just one of them things. I've had a couple of weeks off, maybe I'm not as tired as the other guys. But, I'll take my win anywhere. I don't care where it is."

Davis made an early move, shooting a 29 on the front nine with six birdies. Thatcher overtook him with three straight birdies on the back nine and had a one-stroke lead before missing a 7-foot par putt on the 17th hole.

"I executed just really well in that stretch," Thatcher said. "It's easy to say they're easy holes, and that's what you should do, but you still have to execute."

Seventeen other players were within five strokes of the lead entering the final round.

John Rollins, James Driscoll and Stuart Appleby were two strokes back. Defending champion Fredrik Jacobson, who led after two rounds, shot an even-par 70 to remain at 9 under.

Davis said his fast start was helped by the thunderstorms that pushed the finish of the second round to Saturday morning and softened up the greens.

"I didn't even realize I had shot 29," said Davis, who has been a runner-up on the PGA Tour five times. "I was just playing and everything was going right. Then obviously we hit the turn and we had the wind pick up for about three holes and it was playing tough all of the sudden."

The first-time winners at River Highlands include Jacobson last year, Bubba Watson (2010), Hunter Mahan (2007) and J.J. Henry (2006).

But Thatcher said he's not worried about that.

"I figure when I play well, I'll play well and hopefully it's going to be enough to keep the job every year," he said. "This week will go a long way towards that."

Appleby, by contrast, is looking for his 10th tour win after making just one bogey in his round. The 41-year-old Australian said he's happy to be considered the old veteran among the young guns vying for the championship.

"It would be good to get back in the winner's circle, he said. "The only cut I've made has been shaving for a long time. I played better golf when I was a rookie out here, and that's just not right."

Jacobson recovered from a bogey on 17 to birdie the final hole and stay within striking distance as he attempts to join Phil Mickelson, the 2001 and 2002 winner, as the only players to successfully defend a title at River Highlands.

"I'm really happy being three behind going into tomorrow rather than five or six," he said. "I'll take the positives."

Watson also is in the mix, one of four players at 8-under par. He had a 15-foot birdie putt to go 10-under at the 17th hole, but hit the ball five feet past the hole and then missed the return shot.

"It broke about 6 feet, maybe a gust of wind or something, and then when I putted it back up it either bounced or broke right and it shouldn't do that, obviously, because it went one way and then the other," Watson said.

Seventy-seven players spent Saturday morning finishing their second rounds after thunderstorms halted play early on Friday.

J.B. Holmes, who underwent brain surgery last September, finished the morning with 62, the second best round of his career. But he followed that a few hours later with a 75 and was nine strokes behind the leaders.

Camilo Villegas shot a second round 64 and shot 70 on Saturday afternoon. Villegas, who has three top-25 finishes this season, was four behind the leaders.

"It's nice to see my name up on the leader board," he said. "It's been a tough year and it's always good to play good."

Eighty-eight players made the cut at even par. But former UCLA star Patrick Cantlay wasn't among them. He shot a 67 on Saturday morning to finish 2 over in the first tournament of his professional career.

"I struggled on the first day and never really recovered," he said.

Spain beats France to reach semifinals

DONETSK, Ukraine (AP)—Even if Spain failed to live up to expectations, Xabi Alonso exceeded them.

The defending champions, who are trying to win a third straight major title, advanced to the European Championship semifinals with a not-so-commanding 2-0 win over France on Saturday. In the next round, Portugal and star player Cristiano Ronaldo could provide a much sterner test.

"These types of games, in this type of competition, are always very tense," Spain coach Vicente del Bosque said of Saturday's win, "and you need to have the know-how to win them."

Alonso provided that.

The Real Madrid midfielder celebrated his 100th international appearance with an early header and a late penalty, a pair of rare goals from a player more accustomed to anchoring the back of the six-man midfield rather than pushing forward with the rest.

"I could never have imagined to reach my 100th cap, to go to the semis and score two goals," Alonso said. "Hopefully the 101st will be better."

Spain's next match will come on Wednesday against Portugal, again at the Donbass Arena in Donetsk. And with Ronaldo improving as the tournament progresses, Spain will likely have to improve as well to earn a chance to defend its title.

Saturday's opening goal was the result of excellent one-touch soccer - the hallmark of Spain's game. Andres Iniesta prodded the ball through for Jordi Alba, who whipped a perfect cross from the left. Alonso timed his run so well that no France defender picked him up.

France's Yohan Cabaye, right, and Spain's Xabi Alonso go for the ball during the Euro 2012 soccer championship quarterfinal match between Spain and France in Donetsk, Ukraine, Saturday, June 23, 2012.

Spain wrapped things up after France right back Anthony Reveillere barged into substitute forward Pedro Rodriguez in injury time. Alonso coolly sent goalkeeper Hugo Lloris the wrong way from the spot, looking right but clipping the ball firmly to the left.

"He knows how to sacrifice himself, help the team and where to play," Del Bosque said of Alonso. "He is one of the attacking strengths of ours. He knows how to create and finish."

The win was Spain's first ever over France in a competitive match in seven attempts. But France wasn't that competitive Saturday, managing only one shot on target.

"When you lose a game there's always something missing, I'm not sure if it's possession or technical ability," France coach Laurent Blanc said. "The lads gave everything and it's very hard to play against Spain. We blocked their left flank, which is their strong point."

France's best moment came in the 32nd minute when Yohan Cabaye's free kick was tipped over by Spain goalkeeper Iker Casillas.

"They were there for the taking," Blanc said. "We knew we would get some chances, and the only thing I regret is that they scored off their first good chance. If we had gone in level at 0-0 at halftime, then I think we would have had more room in the second half."

Although the French made it out of the group stage for the first time since the 2006 World Cup, the manner of Saturday's loss will be disappointing for a team touted as one of the tournament's dangerous outsiders.

France formed a deep defensive line and watched awestruck as Spain flicked the ball around like a training session. The Spanish made dummy runs everywhere early on, and had a penalty claim waved away in the sixth minute when Cesc Fabregas tumbled under a challenge from left back Gael Clichy.

Fabregas also started against Italy in Spain's opening 1-1 draw, sparking criticism against Del Bosque for not picking a recognized striker. But against France, it worked.

Spain pulled a compact France team out of position in the 10th minute as Iniesta curled a ball behind center half Adil Rami but it was too far for Fabregas to reach.

Karim Benzema, looking for his first goal at a major tournament, looked sharp and made some good runs, but the Real Madrid striker rarely got any service. He was fouled in the 32nd after running onto Florent Malouda's pass, and Cabaye's free kick was sailing into the top left corner before Casillas shuffled across quickly to save it.

While the French averted a repeat of the 2010 World Cup crisis - when the entire squad went on strike at training - the buildup to Saturday's game was marred by tensions in the camp following a heated dressing room bust-up after the 2-0 loss to Sweden.

"The big teams have all showed up at this Euro, and they will be in the semifinals," Blanc said. "Unfortunately, France won't be."

Thunder face tough choices after loss in finals

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)—By keeping largely the same group together and building over time, the Oklahoma City Thunder climbed from the bottom of the league to the NBA Finals.

They were so close to the pinnacle. Now it gets only more difficult to keep all the pieces in place to try to finish the job.

The Thunder enter the offseason with coach Scott Brooks' contract about to expire, Sixth Man of the Year James Harden and NBA blocks leader Serge Ibaka eligible for new deals and the future of veterans Derek Fisher and Nazr Mohammed up in the air.

It will be up to general manager Sam Presti to determine whether they all can still fit on a team where All-Stars Kevin Durant and Russell Westbrook are already locked into expensive, long-term deals.

''It's going to be difficult decisions but we'll see what happens,'' forward Nick Collison said Saturday. ''Obviously, we want everybody back. We feel like we've got a really good core group and we feel like we can get it done with our group, so hopefully it can happen.''

Brooks' situation is the most urgent, with his deal expiring at the end of the month.

''I'm sure in the next couple of days we will sit down and get together. Definitely, I wish I was preparing or just finishing up practice going into Game 6,'' Brooks said. ''You definitely need a few days just to reflect on what we've done this year. But the next couple of days, we plan on getting together.''

Brooks has overseen a steady improvement since taking over early in the 2008-09 season, when Oklahoma City finished with 23 wins. After that, the Thunder lost in the first round of the playoffs the next year and then were defeated in the Western Conference finals before falling in five games in the NBA Finals this season against Miami.

''Scotty is my guy for life, no matter what,'' Durant said during the finals. ''If he's our coach for 10 more years or not, that's my guy. I love him like family. He's pushing me every single day. He demands a lot out of me and when I'm messing up, he's going to tell me. And that's what I need.''

Harden and Ibaka still have a year left under contract but will become eligible for their first contract extension in July. If they don't sign over the next year, they would become restricted free agents - with the Thunder getting the chance to match any offer from another team.

''This is something special here. A dynasty is being built here,'' Harden said. ''We're winning, we're having fun and we're brothers. ... The other stuff, you can't buy it. It's the friendships.

''I'm going to just play the year out and have fun and not worry about it. I'll let them figure that out and discuss all that.''

Harden said his immediate concern is winning a spot on the U.S. Olympic team, along with Durant and Westbrook. Ibaka could also be in the Olympics, representing Spain.

''I love it here. This team is like a family, like we're really brothers,'' Harden said. ''We hang out most of the time every single day. You can't find any other team like this. I love it here.''

The Thunder have been able to keep their youthful core together, with their best players still under their less-expensive rookie contracts. Durant got his extension two summers ago, and Westbrook signed his new deal in December.

As more of the team's nucleus gets fatter contracts, the luxury tax becomes a bigger factor.

''They know they're a big part of what we do here. They know how much we value them as people first and as players. They know how much the city loves them,'' Durant said. ''So, let them do what they do. My job is to be a great teammate and a great friend to them.''

Presti also must decide whether to keep Fisher, who signed with the team after the Lakers traded him in March, and whether to re-sign Mohammed after he agreed to a one-year deal last offseason.

Backup point guard Eric Maynor, who missed most of the season with a knee injury, is in the same situation as Harden and Ibaka.

''I can just put that in one word: sacrifice,'' Maynor said. ''If we really want to continue, I feel like we've got something special here. I feel like if guys sacrifice getting something done, then everybody will be here.''

Wade's knee may keep him out of Olympics

MIAMI (AP)—Dwyane Wade played with knee pain throughout the playoffs. He'll soon know exactly what was causing that problem, and if it could keep him out of the London Olympics.

One day after celebrating his second NBA championship, the Miami Heat guard told The Associated Press on Friday that he will soon have his ailing left knee examined, and acknowledges that surgery may be a possibility. Wade appeared in all 23 postseason games for Miami, averaging 22.8 points, and scored 20 in the title-clinching win for the Heat against Oklahoma City on Thursday night.

''I've got to make a decision on what my knee needs and what's best, because my career and finishing my career strong is what's important to me,'' Wade said. ''And I know, yeah, the Olympics are coming up. It's something I really want to do. But at the same time, if I have to make a big decision, if something has to happen surgery-wise, that will have to be a step I have to take. My loyalty and my commitment to Miami Heat basketball is the No. 1 thing.''

An MRI exam will likely take place in the next few days. Wade had the knee drained during Miami's second-round series against Indiana.

''From my small conversations with the doctor at that time, I think some kind of cleanup process might have to go on,'' Wade said. ''And when that happens, from our previous experiences, it takes a while to recover. So I want to make sure that I want to recover strong and not like I did the last knee surgery that I had.''

Wade had surgery on his left knee in May 2007. He led the Americans in scoring at the Beijing Olympics, averaging 16 points despite coming off the bench in all eight games.

USA Basketball plans to have the national team convene in Las Vegas and for training camp to start there on July 6. From there, the American team will go to Washington to begin training on July 13, with more sessions beginning July 17 in Manchester, England, and July 20 in Barcelona. The Olympics begin July 27 and the first game for the Americans in London is against France two days later.

Try Luck, Mix Blood Shooters II seize back-to-back titles

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

Jonny's Bar & Grill's Try Luck, right, and SOS Bar & Grill's Mixblood Shooters II members pose with their championship trophies during the 2012 Winter/Summer Bud Light Dart League awards banquet held yesterday at the Charley's Cabaret of the Pacific Islands Club.

Jonny's Bar & Grill's Try Luck and SOS Bar & Grill's Mix-Blood Shooters II came home as the most decorated Saipan Electronic Dart Association teams in the 2012 Bud Light Winter-Summer League awards banquet held yesterday at the Charley's Cabaret of the Pacific Islands Club.

Try Luck topped the Ladies division, while ruled the Mix-Blood II the A division for their second straight championship as they also clinched the post season Bud Light Cup honors. Try Luck defeated Mome's Mei of Bammy's Bar & Grill, 8-5, while Mix-Blood II bested Sand's Juvy Predators, 9-4.

Try Luck members include team captain Aida Laniyo, Luz Antonio, Tresha Diaz, Naomi Laniyo, Matrina Lisua and Tess Tesoro. VFW Post 3457's B-52 Shooters finished runner-up and Naked Fish Bar & Grill's Man Amigas rounded out the third spot.

Mix-Blood II is composed of captain Mario Espinoza, Dean Borja, Frank Codog, Manding Legaspi, Bernard Paras and Ranie Soriano. They beat runner-up Bud Brothers and third placer Sabalu, both of Bammy's.

E'y Kitchen's Kamotes also bagged its second consecutive first place showing in the Masters division, however they came up short in pulling off the sweep, falling to eventual Bud Cup champs Maharot Crew of VFW in the first round; VFW's Maharot Crew finished the season in second place in front of Bammy's Aces.

Kamotes is made up of team captain Jun Olita, Kaysie Aquino, Jun Baltazar, George Medina, Eric Pascual, and Robert Valdez.

Other first place winners include Tuesday B-League's Na'Gupu Too of Naked Fish Bar & Grill; B Fanihi's SOS-DJ Fish; B-Flame Tree's Rehab of Jonny's; C division's Sparks of Jonny's; and Inter-Government division's AG-Sakudi of Jonny's.

Na'Gupu Too members includes captain Alvin Sablan, Jeff Babauta, George and Joseph Cruz, Sim Iramk, Richard Rabago, Darwin Sablan, and Freddy Salavaria; SOS-Sea Bridge's 80 Proofers finished second in front of SOS's Mixblood Shooters II.

DJ Fish is made up of captain Mario Espinoza, Jun Azarcon, Rolly Bermiso, Cliff Hamoy, Danilo and Julie Salinas, and Allan Villa. They beat Bammy's DRP2 and sister squad Lights Out.

Rehab is made up of captain Jaycee Rdialul, Blaren Castro, Mike Jones, Jacob Lizama, Nick Muna, and Elton and Joseph Santos. VFW's Good Guys II came in second place, ahead of Joe's Steakhouse's Skoregazzzums.

The Sparks members include captain Diony Camacho, Isaac Aguon, Arvin Avilla, Shawn Dela Cruz, and Roland Delos Reyes. Bammy's DRP settled for runner-up honors and Oceanside Bar & Grill's V1 Shooters finished in third.

AG's Sakude members include captain Tony Tomokanem George Cruz, Alvin and Jesse Iglecias, Jayson John, George Sablan, and Lionel Sanchez. Bammy's Team CUC came in second place in front of Jonny's DPS Bad Boyz.

SHIRLEY'S

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attempt with the ball going out passing the right post.

Alexa Vergara was the last to step into the box and she admitted she felt the pressure too much that she went a few steps away from the box before rushing for a thunder quick kick that was way too fast for Gramlich.

Down, 5-4, it was Natalie Hill's turn to be at the pressure cooker and hit the equalizer. She had a good line with the ball rolling down toward Atalig's left side, but the Shirley's goalie read Hill's body language and dove for the save.

"Coach Johann (Noetzel) taught me how to read a player's body language when hitting a penalty kick, so I watched Natalie's movements and I knew she was leaning toward my left," Atalig said.

Both Paire and Shirley's had chances to win the game in regulation and in the extra minutes. In the second half, Paire went up, 2-1, off Herber's penalty kick in the 32nd minute. However, with only two minutes remaining in the second half, Shirley's Lalaine Pagarao broke away from her defenders, rushed toward the right sideline and made a cross to tie the match. A miss header from Frink in the last four seconds of the second half sent the game in extra minutes.

In the extension, Paire and Shirley's played two 15-minute period and after the first 15 minutes of the game, the finale was still even as neither team scored. With both teams playing for more than two hours and exhaustion beginning to take its toll on the players, some Shirley's strikers were overheard pleading to their teammates to score to end the game.

Charlene Lizardo must have heard her teammates' appeal, as she came from the bench and surprisingly scored from the right wing at the 1:51 mark of the second 15-minute extra time. However, Paire refused to give up and tied the match anew after Herber connected on another penalty kick, just three minutes before the 15-minute extra time lapsed and sent the game in penalty shootout.

Herber went on to tally four goals for Paire, as she also light up the scoreboard in the 37th minute of the first half. Shirley's drew first blood in the exciting title match after Marielle Gariguez found the back of the net in the 8th minute.

Shirley's finished the regular season of the six-team league with a 9-1-0 win-draw-loss record and advanced to the finals after beating MP United. Paire, which drew Shirley's in their second outing after losing their first meeting, made it to the title game after downing Independents Football Club.

COME

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in the last one minute.

Since Hi-Five was not yet in the penalty mark, MDX/Armatech was just given possessions in the final minute and then sealed the win in the last 10.3 seconds when Deocares found Dicky Feria open at the paint for the underneath basket.

Feria finished in double figures with 10, just two points behind MDX/Armatech top-scorer Art Borromeo. Deocares added six.

Jethro Cruz had 12 markers for Hi-Five, which led by 11 after the first period, 22-11, and kept the driver's seat in the next two quarters before folding up in the payoff canto.

MDX/Armatech outgunned Hi-Five in the fourth frame, 12-4, with Francisco and Feria combining for eight points.

Bayani/LBT 101, Batangas 70

In the final regular season game in the 2012 UFO Masters Budweiser Cup last Thursday, Bayani/LBT Appraisel walloped Batangas/Fong's Bakery.

Bayani finished the round-robin league with a 4-1 record and earned a bye in the first round of the playoffs, joining the undefeated MDX/Armatech (5-0). Batangas fell to fourth place (2-4) and will duel VisMinda/Civic Boys (1-4) in the win or go home playoff round. Laguna/Twinkle/Erika's (3-2) and MAFEA/CMI (0-5) complete the playoff cast and will also collide in the first round of the playoffs set for July 1.

Bayani took early control of the lopsided match, as it went ahead, 26-14, after the first period. Ed Cosino and Jack Palacios teamed up in Bayani's hot start with the former scoring 10 and the latter adding 8. Cosino went on to nail a game-high 22 points, while Danny Bicera finished what his teammates started, tallying 21. Palacios chipped in 19, while Tony Diaz contributed 15.

Joseph Galulu had 16 points for Batangas, which failed to match Bayani's offensive firepower with the absence of Jun Abedes and Amor Casabuena.

U14

MDX/Armatech 55 – Borromeo 12, Feria 10, Francisco 10, Deocares 6, Ogasawara 4, Amog 4, Cudia 3, Malasarte 2.

Hi-Five 52 – J. Cruz 12, Hernandez 11, Francisco 8, Cristobal 4, Mercene 4, Wang 3, Pangelinan 3, Diyco 2, C. Cruz 2.

Scoring by quarters: 11-22, 28-33, 43-48, 55-52.

Masters

Bayani/LBT 101 – Cosino 22, Bicera 21, Ja. Palacios 19, Diaz 16, F. Palacios 7, Tiples 6, Santos 6, Sahagun 2.

Batangas/Fong's Bakery 70 – Galulu 1, Alejandro 12, Gatdula 12, Buniag, Alano 8, Puno 6, Bernardo 6, Jacob 4.

Scoring by quarters: 26-14, 55-30, 73-46, 101-70.

LOVING

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ses and Joy Dayrit chipped in seven points apiece for a slim 25-24 lead after the opening 10 minutes of Saturday's opener. However the R-Rebels kicked it into high gear during the second canto and opened up a 46-35 margin at midpoint. Trevor Ogumoro led the R-Rebels' charge with eight points in the second canto.

The R-Rebels continued to play solid defense after the break and contained their opponents to just seven markers in the third quarter for a daunting 68-42 margin, heading into the last period. Eight different R-Rebels contributed on offense in the third frame.

It remained all R-Rebels in the fourth quarter, as Star Water simply fell too far behind.

Marlon De Dios scrambled for nine points late in the game for Star Water, but it was not enough. He and Edwin Santos teamed up for 24 points, while R-Rebels' Ogumoro and Syl Teregeyo turned in 14 apiece.

In the second game, Loving Hands Daycare buried three early treys for a 20-19 edge in the first quarter; two came from Sonny Lerio who led the squad with 8 points in the opening frame.

Lerio then banged in two more threes early in the second quarter and added 9 more points to his total as Loving Hands pulled ahead at halftime, 47-33. Melvin Cadiang and Jessie Mina combined for 14 points to lead NVM.

NVM nailed four from behind the arc in the third quarter, however Lerio kept his hot hand for another 8 points to help maintain a 65-53 advantage, heading into the payoff period.

James Abuy then added a pair of three balls early in the fourth quarter, helping Loving Hands roll to the easy win.

Lerio finished with a game-high 29 points, while Rocyl Ritual managed 21 on the short end for NVM.

First Game

R-Rebels 88 – Ogumoro 14, Teregeyo 14, Norita 8, Hambros 7, Lisua 7, Fitial 6, Galulu 6, Litulumar 6, E Camacho 5, Ulloa 5, Ogarto 4.

Star Water 57 – Santos 13, De Dios 11, Manalo 8, Moises 10, Dayrit 8, Capalad 3, Rivera 2, A, Sacramento 2.

Scoring by quarters: 24-25, 46-35, 68-42, 88-57.

Second Game

Loving Hands 83 – Lerio 29, Rabauliman 10, Abuy 9, Tabora 7, Barrios 6, Johannes 5, G. Aquino 4, Herrera 2.

NVM 72 – Ritual 21, Basa 12, Cadiang 8, M. Manibusan 7, Mina 7, Barcinas 6, Mendiola 6, Deleon 2, Tobias 2.

Scoring by quarters: 20-19, 47-33, 65-53, 83-72.

DOCOMO

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Erwin Gomez top-scored for Docomo with 18, including the team's last eight points. His drive against burly 8 Division center Daniel Cruz tied the game at 53-all, with still 1:40 left on the clock.

8 Division held a precarious three-point lead, going into the final two minutes and a split from Resty Joson sliced the deficit to a deuce and Docomo remained afloat after Cruz muffed both charities on the other end.

After Cruz's second miss free throw, Docomo controlled the rebound, leading to Gomez's fastbreak basket. 8 Division continued to miss in the ensuing plays with Rafael Rivera muffing a baseline jumper, Rick Alejandro fumbling underneath, and Rio Jacob faltering a triple. A frustrated Cruz, who was begging for the ball in those botched plays, was then boxed out well by Docomo players, preventing him from going for putbacks.

Gomez, on the other hand, made two more layups and then canned two free throws in the remaining 5.6 seconds to complete the come-from-behind win.

KFC 87, Wushin 60

In the second game, KFC/Taco Bell routed Wushin.

KFC finished the round-robin elimination with a 6-1 record and sealed the No. 1 seed in the playoffs in Bracket B, while Wushin is out of the running with its winless card (0-6).

Wushin was held to only three field goals in the first quarter, while KFC was on target early for a 22-7 advantage. KFC never looked back from thereon and had five players scoring in double figures after four quarters.

Albert Salas led KFC with his 23 markers, Ralph Francisco logged 12, Pat Tinio added 11, and Herbert Maranan and Joel Sevilla contributed 10 each.

Ferdie Tobias paced Wushin with his 19 markers.

First Game

Docomo 59 – Gomez 19, Achas 10, Tengco 7, Joson 5, Usi 4, Cultura 6, Enriquez 3, Tudela 3, Bautista 2.

8 Division 53 – Dela Cruz 18, Detera 11, Alejandro 11, Rivera 11, Reyes 2.

Scoring by quarters: 13-11, 27-22, 36-40, 59-53.

Second Game

KFC 87 – Salas 23, Francisco 14, Tinio 11, Sevilla 10, Maranan 10, Deleon Guerrero 8, Tumbaga 2.

Wushin Express 61 – Tobias 19, Tibayan 15, Dacumos 10, De Jesus 5, Schneider 3, Farinas 2, Bautista 2.

Scoring by quarters: 22-7, 40-27, 60-44, 87-61.

Weekend Sports

Basketball, badminton share spotlight

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Basketball games were played all over the courts on Saipan last week, while Northern Marianas Badminton Association completed the title matches in the IT&E Singles & Mixed Doubles Badminton Tournament 2012 at the NMBA Gym at the TSL Sports Complex in Gualo Rai.

In the UFO Docomo Pacific Cup at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium, MDX/Armatech stunned the then undefeated SMF/DYS in the U14 division, pulling off a 72-70 win in their second outing. In the U20 division, MDX/Mariana Resort and AON/Boholano also eked out close wins over Hi-Five and De-Molay, respectively.

In the UFO Masters Budweiser Cup, defending champion MDX/Armatech swept the round-robin regulation to top the six-team league, while Bayani/LBT Appraisal finished second with a 4-1 card. Laguna/Twinkle/Erik's placed third with its 3-2 card, followed by Vis-Minda/Civic Boys (1-4) and MAFEA/CMI (0-5).

In the DLX/DL JOS caging at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court, KFC grabbed a share of the lead after downing the then unbeaten Fast-breakers, while Docomo notched three straight wins.

Over at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court for the Blue Haus caging, Ashley's and Wanted Sponsor recorded separate wins last week.

For the Docomo youth league, which is also being played at the Garapan court, Proa and Loving Hands won their respective U17 games, while Shottas and Peacemakers prevailed in the U25 matches.

Still at the Garapan court, Young Guns and the Hoops won their debuts in thee Rollers Basketball Club's inaugural Mini-Rascals Youth Basketball Tournament.

In badminton, NMBA played the championship matches in the men's and women's singles and mixed doubles A of the IT&E tournament. Andreau Galvez and Hannah Choi repeat as champions in the men's and women's singles A divisions, respectively; Jexler Caranto and Toshiko Obata ruled the B division; and Brandon Talania and Roma Barlao reigned supreme in the C division. In the mixed doubles A finals, Galvez and Angie Ito defeated Ferdie Arago and Lani Bartolome.

Meanwhile, other on-going tournaments/leagues on Saipan continued with the Saipan Major League and the Chamolinian softball league having their regular season games at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield and the Capital Hill Ballfield, respectively.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Andreau Galvez stretches to return a low shot to Ferdie Arago during their men's A singles title game in the IT&E badminton tournament last week at the NMBA Gym at the TSL Sports Complex in Gualo Rai.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Hannah Choi leans in for a return to Angie Ito during their women's A singles title game in the IT&E badminton tournament last week at the NMBA Gym at the TSL Sports Complex in Gualo Rai.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Docomo's Resty Joson goes up for a shot against AD 31's Dexter Mendiola during their game in the DLX/DL JOS caging last week at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

◄ The Mini Rebels' Angelo Factor, right, dribbles past a Young Guns defender during their game in the RBC Mini Rascal caging last week at the Garapan Basketball Court.
WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
The Ol'Aces' Jess Iguel drops a bunt down the first base line during their game against the D-9ers in the SML at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfied.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
MDX/Armatech's Ferdie Tobias escapes from his defenders for a fastbreak layup during a game in the UFO Budweiser Cup caging at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Kim Boranah makes a return from the backcourt while teammate Jexler Caranto looks on during a mixed doubles game in the IT&E badminton tournament last week at the NMBA Gym at the TSL Sports Complex in Gualo Rai.

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Shirley's survives Paire in shootout

Shirley's FC's Jeralyn Castillo, left, and Paire FC's Natalie Hill battle for the ball during the second half of their title game in the NMIFA women's league last Saturday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Northern Mariana Islands Football Association

Mikky Vargas hit the go-ahead goal in the penalty shootout, while goalie Jhaneeka Atalig made a save to finally wrap up the more than two hours title match and hand Shirley's the victory.

The winner-take-all finals went into the penalty shootout when Shirley's and Paire were tied, 2-all, after the two 40-minute halves and were still in a deadlock, 3-all, after the 30-minute extra time.

In the penalty shootout, Shirley's Marielle Gariguez was called first to the box and made it to the board after Paire goalie Temary Gramlich had butterfingers and let the ball slipped away from her hands and rolled toward the goal. Paire's Megan Herber tied the game anew when her attempt went in, as Atalig was a step slower from sliding toward her right side.

Marilou Gariguez was next for Shirley's, but this time, Gramlich kept her ground and tapped the ball out. However, Paire failed to take the lead, as Phalai Frink's kick went too high and didn't event hit the post.

Learning from Frink's strong kick, Shirley's Alexa Vergara went for a soft, but quick shot, catching Gramlich off guard for their 4-3 advantage. However, Paire forced another deadlock when Michiko Tenorio tricked Atalig, who went for a dive, and missed the former's loop shot.

Next up for Shirley's was Jeralyn Castillo, who connected on her first attempt, but the shot was nullified as the ball was placed on a wrong spot, and she went on to miss her second shot that hit the center post. Fortunately for Shirley's, Vanessa Pritchard also muffed her

See SHIRLEY'S on Page 26

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Shirley's Football Club saved a perfect season and clinched the championship in the 2012 NMIFA Women's Spring League after outlasting Paire Football Club, 5-4, in a down-to-the-wire finale last Saturday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

Loving Hands, R-Rebels notch wins

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantrbune.com
REPORTER

WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

The R-Rebels' Roy Norita, seen here driving against his defender in an earlier game in the Blue Haus caging, scored eight points in their 88-57 rout of Marianas Water last Saturday at the Garapan Basketball Court.

Loving Hands Daycare and the R-Rebels triumphed over separate opponents in last Saturday's Blue Haus Invitational Basketball League make-up matches at the Garapan Basketball Court.

The R-Rebels mopped the floor with Star Water (0-4), 88-57, in the curtain raiser in Division A and improved their record to 3-1, while Loving Hands stamped its fourth win in five games after defeating NVM (2-2), 83-72, in the late pairing in Division B.

The R-Rebels are in second place in Division A behind QQ Rent A Car (4-1). DLX (3-1), Mobil (1-2), and Ashley's (1-3) complete the group. Loving Hands leads Division B, ahead of Wanted Sponsor (3-2), Saipan Hardware (3-2), Cargo Express (2-2), and Hip Hop Thunder (1-4),

Star Water's Ernie Moi-

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Docomo extends streak in DLX caging

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Docomo's Erwin Gomez escapes past 8 Division defenders for a layup during the fourth quarter of their game in the DLX/DL JOS caging last Saturday at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

Docomo continued its uphill climb in the team standings in the 2012 DLX/DL JOS Inter-Color Basketball League after eking out a 59-53 win over 8 Division last Saturday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

Docomo notched its third straight win and with its even 3-3 record, it moved to third place in the team standings in Bracket A behind Team Pogi (4-1) and Irish Spring (3-1) and boosted its playoff chances. Only the Top 4 teams in each bracket will advance to the second round and 8 Division is likely not to make the cut with its 1-4 slate.

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Come-from-behind win for MDX/Armatech

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

MDX/Armatech recovered from an early deficit to slip past Hi-Five, 55-52, in the lone game in the U14 division of the 2012 UFO Docomo Pacific Cup last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

With the win and its 3-1 record, MDX/Armatech now holds the temporary lead in the youth league, one victory ahead of SMF/DYS (2-1). Hi-Five, which will play SMF/DYS in its last game in the regular season this Saturday, is still winless after three games.

MDX/Armatech fell behind by as much as 11, but bounced back in the fourth quarter and stole the win after holding Hi-Five to only two field goals in the final canto. Hi-Five was scoreless for more than five minutes in the fourth and had several chances of regaining the lead in the last 1:52 of the game, but wasted them.

A basket from Marvin Deocares finally put MDX/Armatech in the lead, 53-52, going into the final two minutes of the match. Hi-Five tried to regain the lead in the ensuing plays, but simply could not buy baskets, even the point-blank shots. Hi-Five missed its last six attempts since MDX/Armatech grabbed the lead and was forced to give up fouls to stop the clock

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